

Labour and Alliance prospects slump in eve of election survey

Final poll shows Tory win

- Mrs Thatcher looks set to win her third successive general election comfortably today
Mr Kinnoch predicted massive Labour gains and said Britain was witnessing the 'last days of Thatcherism'
Mr Steel forecast a 'very late' surge in Alliance support, and Dr Owen said it would capture a third of the vote

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

As an estimated 33 million electors go to the polls today, Mrs Margaret Thatcher looks set for a comfortable victory which would make her the first Prime Minister this century to win three elections in a row.

A Times/MORI poll taken yesterday and on Tuesday among 1,668 voters in 165 constituencies gives the Conservatives a lead of 12 percentage points. It measured support for the parties at: Conservatives 44 per cent, Labour 32 per cent, Alliance 22 per cent and Others 2 per cent.

Another major opinion survey conducted yesterday, by Marplan for The Guardian, measured support at: Conservatives 42 per cent, Labour 35

per cent and Alliance 21 per cent. That would give the Conservatives a majority of about 40 seats, more akin to the margin being predicted privately by Tory campaigners.

Mrs Thatcher's gamble in risking her 134-seat majority a year before she had to appear to have paid off. MORI's final poll before the 1983 general election was reflected almost exactly in the polling booths the next day.

Alliance hopes of holding the balance of power in a hung

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parliament appear doomed. For that to become a possibility the Tories would have to drop below 40 per cent and Labour rise above 36 per cent. None of the three major opinion polls published today raises expectation of a hung Parliament.

The Conservatives had been worried that they would suffer from the traditional droop in support for the Government of the day in the last two days of campaigning. Instead it seems to be the Labour campaign which has faltered at the end as Mr Neil Kinnoch and his Treasury spokesman, Mr Roy Hattersley, have come under heavy fire from ministers over the details of Labour's tax policies.

Ironically for a public which has been battered by a plethora

of opinion polls and an unprecedented barrage of media coverage, the MORI figures reflect almost exactly those of the last opinion poll taken before the election campaign started, which showed party support at Conservatives 44 per cent, Labour 33 per cent and Alliance 21 per cent.

Labour gambled on a presidential-style campaign built around their young leader, despite his lack of experience, and the gamble appeared to have come off when the party made early advances in the polls at the expense of the SDP/Liberal Alliance. But Labour has been unable to sustain its initial drive and the remarkable thing about the campaign has been the solidity of the Conservative vote.

In nearly 50 major surveys by established polling firms the lowest it ever reached was 40.5 per cent. It has almost invariably been from 41 to 44 per cent of the vote.

Recent elections have seen considerable fluctuations in the last 48 hours of campaigning and polls are subject to a margin of error of 3 per cent plus or minus in any party's vote. But the polls have been remarkably consistent and in the end, if MORI's figures are borne out by events today, it seems that Labour has been unable to make any significant inroads on the Conservative vote.

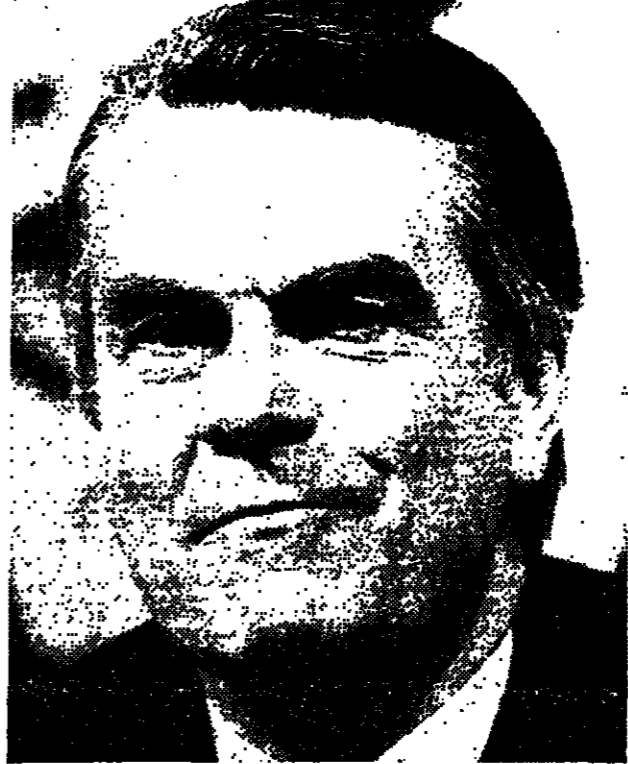
In 1983, the Tories took 44 per cent of the vote, Labour 28 per cent and the Alliance 26 per cent.

So the Tories are on the same mark, Labour is up 5 per cent and the Alliance is down 4 per cent. But there were some signs in other polls over the past two days that the Alliance will pick up a small surge of votes in the dying hours of the campaign, especially in its target seats.

If the MORI figures are reflected today the Conservatives would win 378 seats, Labour 230, the Alliance 18 and others 24. But all pollsters are expecting greater local and regional variations in results this time, which makes all seat projections a risky proposition. At the last election the Tories won 392 seats, Labour 206 and the Alliance 27.

But Labour has not made any advance in the crucial Midlands area.

The weather today will remain cool and cloudy throughout the British Isles, with April-style showers.



Mrs Thatcher, Mr Kinnoch, Mr Steel and Dr Owen at their final press conferences in London yesterday.

Thatcher doubts British enterprise

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Mrs Margaret Thatcher admitted yesterday that at times she had wondered whether the British people still retained the drive to seize the opportunities they had been given under Conservative rule.

Mrs Thatcher also confessed that she wished she had tackled the problems of the education service and the rating system rather earlier. The Prime Minister's can-

did reflections on the past four years came as the leaders of all the major parties held their final press conferences in London.

Mr Neil Kinnoch, the Labour leader, made no such concessions to the more relaxed eve-of-poll atmosphere, beyond complimenting some of the more hostile sections of the press on having the decency to admit finally the

error of some of their previous criticisms.

He insisted that the nation was witnessing the 'last days of Thatcherism' and predicted that Labour would make 'massive gains' today, enough to give it power.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, predicted a 'very late' surge in Alliance support and Dr David Owen forecast that it would capture up to a third of the popular vote.

Meanwhile, senior Conservative sources were discounting the Labour leader's forecasts, saying that the Conservatives were on course for an overall majority of at least 40 seats.

They attributed Mr Kinnoch's general good humour to the fact that by common consent he had won the campaign battle of the last three weeks and was poised to finish a good second.

Howe welcome for CAP reform

From Andrew McEwen, Venice

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday that the final declaration of the Venice economic summit amounted to a strong commitment to reform the European Community's Common Agricultural Policy.

Three Community countries which are also major agricultural producers - France, West Germany and Italy - were among the seven industrialized nations which signed a declaration that included a call for 'concerted reform of agricultural policies.'

Although the Venice Economic Declaration had a global, rather than European, scope, Sir Geoffrey said that the recognition of the need for CAP reform was implicit.

The agricultural statement formed part of the Economic Declaration read at the end of the summit by Signor

Leaders of the seven main industrial countries pledged to sustain non-inflationary world growth, to act on trade imbalances, and called for international rate cuts, in their final summit declaration yesterday. Details... Page 25 Text... Page 27

Amintore Fanfani, Italy's interim leader.

He also read separate statements on Aids and on drugs, and a further document described as the 'chairman's summary on political issues,' which contained a mild reference to the need to promote dialogue in South Africa.

The heads of state and government said that Aids 'is one of the biggest potential health problems in the world.'

They identified the World Health Organisation as the best forum for international co-operation to fight it.

The statement on drugs included a commitment to work for the eradication of their illegal cultivation.

The Prime Minister of Canada, Mr Brian Mulroney, had hoped for a separate statement on South Africa, but Britain was one of several nations which opposed it. Although the final declaration included a strong condemnation of apartheid it did not go as far as the Canadians would have liked.

Sir Geoffrey said there was a strong feeling that it was the wrong moment to launch any kind of initiative.

Britain was supported by West Germany and the United States in blocking Canada's initiative. Mr Mulroney later indicated his strong disappointment.

Mixed impressions, page 10

City will stay up all night

The City is staying awake for the first time through an election night to deal in government securities, shares and foreign currency.

Experts believe there will be strong buying from Japanese and US investors if Mrs Thatcher wins a sizeable majority. Most interest is likely to focus on gilt-edged stocks and foreign exchange, where dealers expect prices to rise sharply if there is news of a Conservative victory.

Dealers gave warning that if the Government lost the election or won only a small majority, the pound could fall sharply, pulling down gilt and share prices.

The Bank of England will monitor the gilts and foreign exchange markets throughout the night but does not expect to intervene.

Most gilts market-making firms said they would stay open but could not tell how much business there would be. Shares fell slightly in thin trading, with the FT 30 share index closing 9.1 points down at 1,752.2. Sterling ended the day unchanged at \$1.6575, after losing early gains. Details, page 25

One cross and five years to regret it...



IN PART 2

Ban threat

English cricketers may seek a ban on West Indians playing in England if a West Indies cricket players involved in the South African game is accepted. Page 43

Pick a thinker

The best managers are thinkers, not doers, says an introduction to today's seven-page General Appointments section. Pages 31-37

Portfolio Gold

Two readers shared the £4,000 prize in yesterday's Times Portfolio Gold competition. Details, page 3.

Portfolio list, page 29.

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Protest as French win ferry order

By John Spicer

A dispute over a £40 million ship order gained by the French at the expense of Govan Shipbuilders on the Clyde is expected to erupt with the announcement that final papers were signed in France yesterday.

The Government has already protested to the EEC, accusing the French of ignoring a directive introduced a few months ago aimed at preventing such moves.

The order for the ship Bretagne (22,500 tons) has been placed by Brittany Ferries with Chantiers de L'Atlantique of St Nazaire. Originally the French company did not bid for the vessel which will carry 2,000 passengers and 600 cars between Plymouth and Santander in northern Spain.

But the loss of an order to an Italian yard prompted a late bid from the French which proved to be 10 per

Canadian bride for an earl

The best-kept Royal romantic secret of the decade was disclosed yesterday when the engagement was announced of the Earl of St Andrews, elder son of the Duke and Duchess of Kent, to Miss Sylvana Tomaselli, a Canadian divorcee.

Their attachment has flowered without Fleet Street's royal watchers getting so much as a sniff of it. Lord St Andrews, aged 24, who is seventeenth in line to the throne, and Miss Tomaselli, aged 29, a research Fellow at Newham College, Cambridge, delayed the announcement until yesterday to allow Lord St Andrews to complete his M.Phil studies and examinations.

Under the Act of Settlement of 1701 marriage to Miss Tomaselli, born a Roman Catholic, will automatically exclude Lord St Andrews from the succession. Photograph, page 3

Iran is told to cut its embassy staff

By Nicholas Beeston

The Foreign Office yesterday gave Iran 14 days to reduce its embassy staff in London by two diplomats, in a move which the Government hopes will finally lay to rest the two-week diplomatic feud with Tehran.

The Iranian Chargé d'Affaires in London, Mr Mohammad Mahdi Akhond-Zadeh Basti, was summoned to the Foreign Office in the morning and told by the Permanent Under-Secretary, Sir Patrick Wright, that Britain wanted to impose a 16-man diplomatic ceiling in both countries.

The British action means two of Iran's 18 diplomats must leave the country by June 24. The Foreign Office will also want to increase its 14-man staff in Tehran by two diplomats, but it did not stipulate when.

The British decision was made by Sir Geoffrey Howe,

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Chernobyl: Where no money can change hands

From Christopher Walker, Nebrat, Ukraine

The ugly, prefabricated settlement of Zeleny Mys, about 27 miles from the Chernobyl nuclear plant, is a curious cross between a wartime camp and a holiday retreat. It is where workers - men and women - escape the extreme psychological pressures of working inside the 18-mile 'dead zone' around the stricken plant.

As you go into the settlement shoes have to be dipped in a long tin bath. Everyone is then checked from head to toe with Geiger counters by white-clad radiation experts. No money is used in the settlement or the 18-mile zone and, before eating in the free canteen, the nuclear station staff are warned by a bold wall poster in rhyme

to wash their hands in two prominent sinks outside the main door.

Until a new town is built, the long-suffering Chernobyl workers (and the service personnel who back them up) will have to continue their present disjointed existence, spending 15 days each month living apart from their families at the settlement.

Although the official death toll from the Chernobyl disaster is unchanged at 31, the human cost in terms of dislocation and long-term health worries remains depressingly high, not just for the workers who remain but also for the 135,000 people evacuated from their homes in the 18-mile zone. Like Soviet emigrés scattered after the 1917 Revolution, most Chernobyl evacuees spend long hours dreaming of an eventual return to their former

homes where their possessions lie just as they were left before the forced exodus in April and May last year.

Of the 70 population centres evacuated in the Ukrainian segment of the exclusion zone, the authorities now claim that 22 have been decontaminated. Despite this boast, The Times was told by a senior Communist Party official that only 300 of the 92,000 refugees from Ukrainian territory had so far been permitted to return.

Most of the others are divided among a string of impressive new villages which have sprung up at a safe distance (put at 40 miles or more) from Chernobyl and about 7,500 flats which have been allocated to them in the regional capital of Kiev. The gratitude of the evacuees for

the way they have been looked after is tinged with deep sadness at their relocation combined with continuing incomprehension, especially among the elderly, at the unseen dangers of excessive radiation.

Typical of the soulless new villages which have mushroomed with remarkable speed on former farm land is Nebrat, a settlement of 560 farmstead-type homes, which now houses 1,662 of the evacuees at a total cost to the state of 22 million roubles (about £2.2 million).

Prominent among its buildings is a spruce-kept clinic, which serves as a centre for the monthly blood tests which all residents have to undergo as part of the huge monitoring operation. Continued on page 24, col 5

NEWS SUMMARY

Pit unions agree

The dispute between the Union of Democratic Mineworkers and the National Union of Mineworkers for control of the multi-million pound Ollerton and Bevercotes Miners Welfare Institute was settled in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Justice Walton approved a scheme by British Coal, trustees of the charity, which gives the unions proportional representation on a new management committee.

Because the UDM represents 70 per cent of workers at Ollerton and Bevercotes, the new scheme gives them a 2-1 majority over the NUM on the committee.

The action was launched because the institute's management, under the control of the NUM, had broken down, and there was evidence that its assets were at risk, but the judge said he wished to make it perfectly plain there was no suggestion that any of the NUM representatives had been financially irresponsible.

Princess in Ulster

Princess Alexandra met soldiers who patrol the border with the Irish Republic yesterday during a seven-hour visit to Northern Ireland.

She flew by helicopter to Lisanelly Barracks in Omagh, Co Tyrone, after arriving in the province and met the families of soldiers serving with the 1st Battalion Light Infantry, who are on a two-year tour of duty.

The Princess is deputy Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment.

Drilling death

A retired carpenter with a painful heart condition, angina pectoris, died after he made a hole in his heart with an electric drill because he could not stand the pain, an inquest at Chichester, West Sussex, was told yesterday.

Joe Boothroyde, aged 71, of White Chimney Row, Westbourne, near Chichester, was found with the drill beside him. Mr Mark Calvert-Lee, the coroner, recorded a verdict that Mr Boothroyde killed himself.

Insurance 'victim'

A part-time shop assistant received an out of court settlement of £4,000 in Liverpool High Court yesterday for injuries caused when an accident insurance company shop sign landed on top of her.

Mrs Marion Ferguson, aged 42, was shopping in Ormskirk, Lancashire, when a sign belonging to Swinton Insurance, which specializes in accident insurance, fell and knocked her out.

She spent three weeks in hospital recovering from cuts and bruises to her head and back, and four broken ribs.

Stalker leaves

Mr John Stalker is to resign his job with the Mersey Television Company to write a book about his last year as Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police.

It will not go into detail about the investigation which he headed into the alleged Royal Ulster Constabulary shoot-to-kill policy.

Both Mr Stalker and the television company have confirmed that he is leaving on good terms.

Greenpeace promise

Greenpeace gave an undertaking in the High Court yesterday not to interfere with a pipeline discharging radioactive waste into the Irish Sea from the Sellafield nuclear plant.

Mr Justice Potts accepted the undertakings from Greenpeace Nederland and injunctions were lifted.

Mrs Thatcher volunteers for transplant donor register

By Craig Seton

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has agreed that her organs can be used in transplant surgery after her death, it was disclosed yesterday.

Mrs Thatcher has entered her name on a new computer register of potential organ donors, agreeing that in the event of her death, her heart, lungs, kidneys, eyes and even skin could be given to patients awaiting transplants.

The Prime Minister's name is the most famous of 11,000 people registered with Lifelink, a pilot scheme based in Birmingham, for what is hoped will become a national computer record of potential donors.

Mr Geoffrey Marshall, the project's manager, said yesterday: "Mrs Thatcher is often depicted as uncaring, but I think a lot of people have got the wrong image of her. I think this proves that she wants to

give the gift of life to someone and shows that she has thought about after she dies. It shows she does care."

Mrs Thatcher willingly signed the necessary form when she was approached unexpectedly by two part-time Lifelink data collectors while she was touring an exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre, near Birmingham, on May 28, during the election campaign.

The data collectors, Sebas-

tian Blunt and Mrs Josephine Giles, were canvassing for names for the register when they met Mrs Thatcher. They explained the Lifelink scheme to the Prime Minister and then asked for her full name and date of birth.

Mrs Thatcher was also asked if there were any organs that she wished to be exempted from the scheme, but she said there was none.

Mr Marshall added: "We did not know Mrs Thatcher

was going to be at the exhibition centre. Our collectors did very well indeed. With Mrs Thatcher's name on the list, we hope it will encourage other people to come forward."

The Lifelink scheme is run with the backing of the Manpower Services Commission by the Cobalt Management Agency in Sheldon, Birmingham.

It is intended to improve on the existing donor card

scheme. It is hoped that all large hospitals will subscribe to it and have direct links with the Lifelink computers.

Mr Marshall said that, when a hospital patient died, hospital authorities would be able to find out immediately if that person was registered with Lifelink.

Lifelink wants 30 similar schemes throughout the country and hopes to have collected 250,000 names by next March.

Ferry safety standards 'perfectly adequate'

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Safety standards on cross-Channel ferries were "perfectly adequate", the inquiry into the capsizing of the Princess Victoria with 134 lives off Northern Ireland in 1953.

Discussing possible design changes to make passenger ferries safer, Mr Rogan said he thought it was conceded that the doors were left open and that there was a trim problem.

"If someone suggested to me as a naval architect I should design a ship which would withstand the ingress of hundreds of tons of water at 15 knots, I would say I was being asked to do the impossible."

Commenting on suggestions that transverse or longitudinal bulkheads should be fitted to new ferries, he said he was chiefly concerned about the consequences of water entering a ferry after it had been damaged in the side.

The idea that transverse bulkheads were the solution to all the problems "is something that may be doubted", he said. Their presence would affect the access of passengers.

There might also be difficulty in providing ventilation and fire-fighting procedures would be affected. Transverse bulkheads would also create a big problem with the use of moveable car decks. They would add to the cost and weight of a ferry.

Regarding the installation of longitudinal bulkheads running from bow to stern, Mr Rogan said that it was necessary to consider that with any form of longitudinal subdivision the possibility the ship might be heeled over further in the direction of the damage than it would be without the bulkhead.

However, both Mr Rogan's statements and the Lloyd's figures exclude the loss of the Princess Victoria with 134 lives off Northern Ireland in 1953.

Between 1976 and 1985 the loss of passenger lives on the railways was at the rate of 0.15 per billion passenger kilometres; for buses and coaches it was 1.6; and for air travel the rate was 0.35.

Figures for passenger ferry sailings from Dover from 1978 until the day before the capsizing of the Herald was 0.28 per billion passenger kilometres, but this shot up to 21.11 as a result of the loss of 188 lives on the Herald.

The inquiry is expected to end today after hearing submissions from counsel. Mr Justice Sheen, the Wreck Commission, is likely to complete his report by about the end of next month.

Mr Anthony Rogan, principal naval architect for many years with Sea Link ferries, said he believed that safety standards on roll-on roll-off ferries were adequate.

He said he could only speak for the period since 1960. In north-west Europe "the record is incredibly good" apart from the loss of the Herald and the European Gateway "we had a perfect record carrying hundreds of millions of passengers".

However, both Mr Rogan's



Placido Domingo yesterday with a portrait of the composer.

Domingo wins role of Puccini in £12m film

Placido Domingo, the opera singer, makes his debut as a straight actor next year as Giacomo Puccini, the Italian composer who died in 1924, in a £12 million British film.

The premiere of Puccini - The Search for the Immortal Bohemian, which will be filmed in Italy and China, will be at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London, next year, it was announced yesterday.

At a contract signing ceremony at the opera house yesterday, Domingo, aged 46, said: "I feel very thrilled because this will be the first film in which I will actually be speaking dialogue."

"I have been thinking about doing this film for the past

three years. My resemblance to Puccini is quite amazing."

An English actress, Helena Bonham-Carter, will play Doris, Puccini's maid-servant, who committed suicide after being accused of having an illicit affair with the composer.

Puccini, who died of throat cancer in 1924, aged 62, wrote 11 operas including Tosca, Madame Butterfly and La Boheme, which Domingo is currently performing on stage at Covent Garden.

The singer received a 25-minute standing ovation from audiences inside and outside the Royal Opera House when he sang the lead on Tuesday night. There were 2,500 in the auditorium and a further 2,000 outside watching his performance on a giant screen.

Drop in migrants allowed to stay

By Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent

There has been a big drop in the numbers of immigrants allowed to settle in Britain, according to new figures from the Home Office.

A total of 47,000 people were accepted for settlement in 1986, compared with 70,000 in 1980 and 80,000 in 1976, the Home Office Statistical Bulletin shows.

The fall in 1986 was largely due to the new immigration rules introduced on August 26, 1985, which also meant that, temporarily, many fewer wives and children were accepted.

That was because many are now granted settled status only after a one-year probationary period and because fiancés are required to obtain entry clearance.

The number of people accepted for settlement in the United Kingdom in the first quarter of 1987 was 10,800, bringing to 45,700 the number accepted in the 12 months ending March 31, 1987.

That was 8,000 fewer than in the 12 months ending March 31, 1986.

About 80 per cent, or 6,400, of the fall in acceptances between the two latest 12-month periods was among wives and children.

However, there were also falls in other categories.

The drop of 8,000 in the number accepted for settlement in the latest 12-month period was mostly due to a fall of 5,600 in New Commonwealth and Pakistani citizens. There were also substantial falls in the numbers of other foreign nationals (1,600) and in Old Commonwealth citizens (800).

Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Control of Immigration: Statistics - first quarter 1987 (Statistical Department, Home Office, Lunar House, Croydon, Surrey, CRO 9YD: £2.50).

Rape by father 'akin to murder'

By Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent

A man who repeatedly raped his stepdaughter, forcing her to submit "by brute force", was jailed yesterday for 14 years by a judge who said his offence was akin to murder.

Judge David, the senior circuit judge for Chester and North Wales, told Mold Crown Court that the man had put the girl through a nightmare and introduced her to sex in a most cruel way.

The 14-year sentence is nearing the top of the scale of recommended fixed-term penalties for rape.

The man, who cannot be named because it might lead to the identification of his victim, was convicted of committing indecent acts with her when she was 12 and of raping her on a regular basis when she was aged 15 to 18. He had denied the charges.

The judge said he had subjected the girl to systematic sexual harassment and abuse during some of her most vulnerable years.

"This is rape in one of its worst forms in my view", Judge David said, and in its worst form rape was to be regarded as being as serious as murder. The physical scars and horror would live with the girl for the rest of her life.

Church to relax ban on gaming

By Clifford Longley Religious Affairs Correspondent

The relaxation of a traditional ban on all forms of gambling is to be recommended to the Methodist Conference later this month.

The change of policy will not be confirmed until after a two-year debate in the church.

The changes proposed are modest: Raffles to raise money for charities may be acceptable but heavy gambling is deemed improper.

Existing policy was formulated in 1936 when all forms of gambling were described as immoral.

In a report published today to be considered by the conference in Portsmouth, it is recognized that not all gambling has harmful consequences. It only becomes wrong when it threatens the "voluntary obligations of faith, family, and social responsibility".

The report still favours a ban on gambling on Methodist church premises but local congregations will decide.

The report accepts that Christians can believe with integrity that gaming may be permissible within limits, for instance if it is for socially useful ends or for amusement.

It criticizes high-value prizes such as the £750,000 on football pools.

Film director 'in struggle' with officer

Daniel Huston, son of John Huston, the film director, struggled violently with a police constable who tried to arrest him, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Police Constable Andrew Yeates, based at Hampstead police station, denies causing actual bodily harm to Mr Huston aged 25, a film director, of Belsize Park Gardens, Belsize Park, north-west London, in May last year. The hearing continues.

Civil Service strikes

More disruption next week

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Ports, airports, social security and unemployment benefit offices reopened yesterday after the two-day Civil Service strike, with members of the two unions involved having to deal with a huge backlog of work.

The unions - the Civil and Public Services Association and the Society of Civil and Public Servants - are claiming more than 80 per cent support from their 200,000 combined membership, but Whitehall spokesmen said the figure was

probably less than half.

The next two-day action is planned by the two unions for June 18 and 19 in Scotland and the north-east of England, with more two-day strikes in other areas during the two following weeks.

The unions, who claim many of their members in DHSS offices are paid less than individuals receive in benefits, are seeking a 15 per cent increase, or £20 a week, whichever is greater. The current industrial action came

after the unions balloted their members on a 4.5 per cent offer by the Treasury.

Apart from delays in benefits, the worst hit areas during the strike on Monday and Tuesday were at Dover and airports, particularly Heathrow. Dover Harbour Board reported a steady clearance of the jam of commercial vehicles yesterday.

At Heathrow and other airports, air traffic control assistants caused flight delays.

Weary wait for a little blue book

By Andrew Morgan

The Passport Office in Petty France, central London, has the air of a casualty unit yesterday as Civil Servants continued strike action and kept businessmen and holidaymakers waiting wearily and seemingly endlessly for their little blue books.

For some, such as Mr Halesa Haydar and Miss Yvonne Stolarz from north London, the agony was particularly acute. They are to be married today and to fly to Cyprus on a £1,300 honeymoon, but Mr Haydar, aged 25, still had no passport.

"I applied by post weeks ago and my travel agent came in person on Tuesday, I took over today and was told there was no trace of the application", he said.

"I've re-applied now and

queued for hours. God knows if I'll be going on honeymoon."

Intermittent Tassoy announcements that industrial action was behind the delays (but staff were working hard) did not soften the anger of people such as Miss Maggie Black, a keeper of apes and monkeys at Chessington Zoo.

She applied for a passport in April for a two-week holiday in Cyprus. When it failed to appear, her mother took time off work this week to spend hours queuing. The flight leaves this morning.

Temper flared all day in the rancid basement as babies cried and security men confused matters by refusing to admit dogs. A few pickets from the Civil and Public Servants Association will be outside for the rest of the week.

They are protesting at a

management move to offer overtime to temporary and non-union workers to try to clear the massive backlog.

A spokesman for the Passport Office said the dispute was delaying personal applications, but the sheer volume of postal applications - expected to exceed two million this year - was behind the general delay.

However, amid the moaning and gnashing of teeth, there were moments of celebration as some passports trickled through.

Like a man holding the Olympic flame, Mr Tim Glasspool, aged 23, from Ashford, Middlesex, held his document aloft, he waited for six hours last week and had come back for his document, with only days to spare for his honeymoon in Florida.

Smithfield rebuilding plan at risk

By David Sapsted

The City of London Corporation has warned Smithfield traders that unless an agreement to end restrictive union practices is reached by the end of the year, it will pull out of its £15 million commitment to refurbish the nation's largest meat market.

A month-long dispute over the Transport and General Workers' Union's power to allocate workers to market jobs ended on Tuesday when Allied Meat Importers (AMI) decided to cease trading at Smithfield rather than hire a

porter nominated by the union.

It became clear yesterday, however, that the underlying reasons for the dispute remained: the Smithfield Market Tenants' Association, which represents the market's 62 traders, passed a motion deploring the fact that restrictive practices had caused one of its members to pull out.

The meeting also failed to ratify an agreement with the corporation about proposals to refurbish the market, although this was expected to be

endorsed at another council meeting later today.

"The City of London Corporation has given us until the end of the year to reach an agreement with the TGWU to modernize union practices at Smithfield", Mr Robin Elliott, spokesman for the tenants' association, said.

The AMI dispute led to a climbdown by the company over the use of non-union staff to unload meat at Smithfield after the TGWU threatened industrial action by truck drivers which would have

crippled AMI's distribution network in the UK.

But Mr Ron Todd, the union's general secretary, has offered to reopen negotiations with the association over the ending of restrictive practices after two years of deadlock.

AMI plans to retain a presence in Smithfield by using its current "pitch" as a showroom.

Yesterday, a £30,000 consignment of beef from Botswana and Zimbabwe, unloaded by non-union labour earlier in the week, was moved out by TGWU porters.

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Life for 'sick' man who decapitated his girl friend's mother

A man with a history of mental illness was sentenced to life in youth custody at Winchester Crown Court yesterday after being found guilty of decapitating his girl friend's mother and stabbing to death a stranger.

Lee Baker hacked off the woman's head, left it on her daughter's pillow, set fire to their house in Bournemouth and went on to attack other victims at random, in revenge for the break-up of his relationship with Miss Caroline Goode.

Police believe that Baker, aged 20, planned to set fire to a petrol station in a spectacular finale.

"The day of the murders, July 28, 1986, is a date that will be not easily forgotten by the people of Bournemouth", Mr David Owens, QC, told the court.

Baker, who has spent 16 years of his life in institutions after being put into care, was sentenced to life in youth custody for the murders of Mrs Elida Goode, aged 49, and Mr Clive Rattu, a refinery worker aged 54.

He was sentenced to 12 years' youth custody for the

attempted murder of Miss Helen Longhurst, a friend of Miss Goode, 10 years' youth custody for arson and two years for causing actual bodily harm.

The sentences are to run concurrently.

Mr Justice Mann said: "You have been found guilty of a series of the most appalling offences."

"You are plainly a man who constitutes a grave risk for the public."

The court was told that, as a child, Baker had an obsession with decapitation and, during the trial, the jury was shown a sketch of an executioner holding a severed head.

His "trail of terror" began when he visited Mrs Goode at her home in Southbourne, near Bournemouth, last July, and stabbed her, then cut off her head and placed it in his former girl friend's bed with the sheets tucked in up to the chin.

He also killed the family dog and started a fire.

Afterwards he met Miss Goode in the street and told her: "I've got a surprise for you. Guess whose house is on fire?"

Baker then visited Miss Longhurst, whom he blamed for the breakup of his friendship with Miss Goode, and stabbed her with a commando knife.

He rode off on his bicycle and, an hour later, struck again when he met Mr Rattu, a stranger who was walking home.

Mr Rattu was hit by a crossbow bolt and then stabbed to death.

Baker fired another bolt at Renc Weigel, a West German student aged 15 who was visiting Bournemouth, but failed to cause any serious injury.

Baker slept rough overnight as police launched a hunt for him and when they found him he said: "I could see what I was doing but I did not believe it."

"There was no plan, no intent to kill."

Three psychiatrists told the court that Baker was suffering from a mental abnormality at the time.

He had lost the ability to control his physical actions.

Earl will marry Canadian



Lord St Andrews, aged 24, elder son of the Duke and Duchess of Kent, who is seventeenth in line to the throne, with his fiancée, Miss Sylvana Tomaselli, aged 29, a Canadian, at Lancaster House, London, yesterday after the couple announced their engagement.

Husband cleared of murdering wife's lover

An unfaithful wife was staying at a secret address last night after being criticized by a judge who jailed her husband for 18 months after he shot her lover in the back.

Nigel Kraty, aged 49, a director of a fire alarms company, was cleared of murder yesterday after a six-day trial at Reading Crown Court, but found guilty of manslaughter.

He tolerated his wife's affair for 10 months before he finally snapped, bought a shotgun and killed Mr Michael Beeton, a hairdresser, when he saw him walking with his wife on a Sunday in November last year, the court was told.

Mr Justice Pain told Kraty: "The situation which led to your sudden break-up was caused entirely by your wife and her lover."

"The jury have decided that, in the dreadful moment that you fired, you were not in control of your mind. I think at the time in your relationship with these two you were generous to the point of folly."

"It may be that while they were compelled by forces beyond their control by falling in love, the way they behaved afterwards is open to the severest criticism."

"I have taken into account the considerable effort you made to save your marriage. Nowadays it seems that marriage has become a rather battered institution. Those who seek to preserve it should be commended."

Kraty and his wife, Janet, aged 40, of Bracknell, Berkshire, who have two sons aged 10 and 12, drifted apart after she began having her hair done by Mr Beeton, also of Bracknell. On the Sunday of the shooting Kraty drove to Wokingham, near by, where he shot Mr Beeton in the back and then gave himself up.

Portfolio Gold Winner to share with friends

An editor of academic books and a pensioner share the Portfolio Gold competition prize of £4,000.

Mr Conan Nicholas, aged 59, of Burrage Road, Woolwich, south-east London, said he intends to share his win with his daughter, Miriam, a librarian, and to spend the rest on entertaining his friends.

Mr Nicholas, a regular reader of *The Times* since he was 15, said his friends had been generous to him in the past and he intended to repay them with a drink.

Mrs Frances Neill, a pensioner, of Chalcut Crescent, Regent's Park, central London, said she had been playing the competition regularly and would spend the money on her house.

Readers can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold, *The Times*, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.



Mr Nicholas: A chance to repay generosity.

Nurses work at job-share plan

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

An experimental job-sharing scheme has been set up between two ward sisters at a London teaching hospital.

The pilot scheme, which could provide one answer to the current nurse recruitment crisis, was initiated by two ward sisters at Charing Cross Hospital in west London.

Mrs Angela Heslop and Mrs Heidi Lemp now split their working week and cover for each other during sick leave. They share the normal sister's salary and there is no additional cost to the hospital.

Although it is the first project of its kind, nursing posts have been split at times when there has been an excessive number of student nurses. Some districts have offered part-time posts so that all students can get staff jobs.

Job shares have also occurred in midwifery and health visiting.

However, management and the medical profession have traditionally opposed splitting the sister's job, arguing that continuity is vital in such a senior post.

The Charing Cross scheme started last year when Mrs Lemp, who was on maternity leave, decided she wanted to return to her own job part-time, rather than take a more junior post.

She got in touch with Mrs Heslop, who wanted to continue doing research part-time, and the two put forward the idea to managers at the hospital.

The project is now being evaluated by a freelance researcher, Miss Judith Lathlean, a former research fellow at King's College, Chelsea.

Miss Lathlean said yesterday that the scheme had proved very successful, although both nurses had put a lot of effort into ensuring continuity of patient care.

"They have a system of recording events in a diary so that each sister can refer to the book. They also have an overlap period so that they can discuss any problems that have arisen."

The Royal College of Nursing said yesterday that nurse job-sharing schemes had enormous possibilities and should be looked at in greater detail.

Mr Derek Dean, director of the RCN's department of nursing policy, said that the project was an imaginative way of encouraging nurses to return to the service.

"If we are to get over our current manpower difficulties we will need to expand this scheme along with other flexible arrangements for employing nurses", he said.

Accident services cut back

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A hospital has had to close its accident and emergency service at weekends and evenings because it is short of junior doctors.

Heatherwood Hospital in Ascot, Berkshire, is operating an office-hours only emergency service because it has only half the staff it needs.

Patients who need emergency treatment will have to go to Wexham Park Hospital, Slough, 13 miles away.

Heatherwood district general manager, Mr John Neate, said that three out of eight junior doctors had recently left the hospital and one is on maternity leave.

It is hoped to reopen the department fully in August.

The next government will have to ration health service resources, a senior health service manager said yesterday.

Miss Barbara Young, the new president of the Institute of Health Services Management, said at Harrogate, North Yorkshire, that "resources cannot and will never meet all the demands".

A group of 50 teenagers on a hospital training scheme set off from Barnsley on a week-long £7,300 expenses-paid trip to Ibiza, leaving behind angry hospital staff.

One worker at Barnsley General Hospital, where the 17-year-olds are attending a two-year Manpower Services Commission course, said: "It is about time we got a trip abroad for all the hard work that we do."

The health authority said: "It is a working trip."

Boxer is jailed after 'Wild West' fight

An amateur boxer who left a man with permanent brain damage after a bare-knuckle fight in a country lane was jailed for two years yesterday at Lincoln Crown Court.

Barry Wilson, aged 39, repeatedly punched Mr Paul Baxter, also aged 39, until he collapsed, then called an ambulance when his opponent was seriously injured.

Wilson, of Ingelow Avenue, Boston, Lincolnshire, admitted causing grievous bodily harm and was told by Judge Wilcox: "You knew that you had skills in the boxing field that were far superior to his".

Mr Peter Flemming, for the defence, said that in Boston, where the "code of the Wild West" existed, it was quite common for men to settle disputes with a fist fight.

Duke of Windsor biographer chosen

By David Sapsted

The biographer of Lord Mountbatten of Burma, whose book was labelled as "muck-raking" by a Conservative MP for its disclosures about the sex life of the Queen's cousin, was yesterday appointed by Buckingham Palace to write the official biography of the Duke of Windsor, whose abdication as King Edward VIII shook the nation.

Mr Philip Ziegler, to whom the palace has promised full access to the royal archives, said yesterday that he would

begin his research next week.

"My aim is always to get as close to the truth as possible. I wouldn't deliberately hide anything. The Royal Family could not have been upset by anything in the (Mountbatten) book because they have entrusted me with this one", he said.

Apart from the issues of the abdication and marriage to Mrs Wallis Simpson, an American divorcee, the biography looks certain to raise still sensitive issues such as the Duke's reputation as a playboy and the controversy

surrounding his allegedly pro-German tendencies when he was king.

Mr Ziegler's 1985 biography of Lord Mountbatten caused controversy by referring to his extra-marital love life and that of his wife, Edwina.

Although the Prince of Wales, who was exceptionally close to his "Uncle Dickie", considered the book to be fair, it was said by Mr Nicholas Winterton, who is seeking re-election as Tory MP for Macclesfield, to be muck-raking.

Mr Winterton said yesterday: "Obviously, the choice of biographer is up to the Queen herself but I do hope that Mr Ziegler will not be indulging himself by dredging up some of the more dismal days of our past that seemed to play a major part in his book on Mountbatten".

Mr Ziegler was presented with the Heinemann Award in 1977 for his acclaimed biography of Lord Melbourne.

His book on the Duke of Windsor, to be published by Collins.

Police on alert as Stonehenge hippies arrive

Police kept a watching brief as the first of up to 3,000 hippies crossed into Wiltshire yesterday on their way to celebrate the summer solstice with a free festival at Stonehenge (Michael Horsnell writes).

With only 10 days to go to the solstice, police are hoping that the violent confrontations which have characterized the past two years will not recur.

The organizers plan to avoid a confrontation by negotiating a festival site with farmers.

Vaccine 'the way ahead in fight against Aids'

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The rapid spread of Aids might be fought more effectively by using a vaccine on people already infected than by conventional immunization, a leading expert has suggested.

Dr Jonas Salk, who developed the first vaccine against poliomyelitis in 1955, proposes this radical change in vaccination strategy in *Nature*, the scientific journal, today.

He recommends more research into the possibility of blocking the progress of the disease in individuals carrying the Aids virus, but who have not acquired fatal symptoms.

Carriers of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) may remain healthy and asymptomatic for years after they have been infected. That long incubation period could be exploited, he says.

If a vaccine could prevent the progression of Aids in carriers it would have a greater impact on the epidemic than would an immunization strategy aimed at people not infected, Dr Salk says.

If it could also reduce the contagiousness of HIV carriers

then the virus reservoir in the population would be rapidly reduced, as would the frequency of newly acquired infections.

Dr Salk, of the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, in San Diego, California, says that in the early stages the body's immune system is effective against the HIV infection.

Aids develops only when there is a decline in the supply of antibodies.

One possibility would be to develop a vaccine based on genes from HIV which are known to stimulate the production of antibodies.

An alternative would be to use the serum components found in the blood of newly infected people, Dr Salk says.

AL-127, a drug derived from ordinary egg yolks which can slow the progression of Aids, could soon be given approval by the US Food and Drug Administration.

The Government is pressing ahead with plans to stage an international Aids conference in London, after support for the idea at the Venice summit yesterday.

Fall Venice text, page 10

Plea to clarify law makers' jargon

By Michael Horsnell

A plea for an end to the impenetrable gobbledegook which plagues the law of the land was made in London last night by Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the National Consumer Council.

At the centre of his criticism were parliamentary draftsmen, who confound even lawyers with their abstruse language, and a system which obliges exhausted MPs to deal with vital pieces of legislation in the small hours of the morning when they found it hard keep their eyes open.

Addressing the Devonshire House Management Club, a trust for furthering the educa-

tion of business executives, he said the incoming government's top priority should be to ensure that the statute book is written in plain English.

Mr Montague said: "It still defies me why parliamentary draftsmen seem to take such professional pride in drawing up legislation that confounds all but a legally trained mind. This is absurd."

"What would they think if they knew that members of both Houses are sometimes expected to deal in three days or less with more than 500 amendments to a proposed new law?"

As an example Mr Montague

read out the following passage from the Insolvency Act (1986): "The court shall not make a declaration under subsection (1) above with respect to any person if it is satisfied that after the condition specified in subsection (2) (b) above was first satisfied in relation to him that person took every step with a view to minimizing the potential loss to the company's creditors as (assuming him to have known there was no reasonable prospect that the company would go into insolvent liquidation) he ought to have taken."

That piece of impenetrable prose was now part of the law of the land, he added.

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Last-minute warning by Thatcher on complacency

By Philip Webster

The Prime Minister last night delivered a final warning to Conservative supporters against complacency in today's general election. She told them that every vote was vital.

As she brought her personal campaign for a third term to a close, Mrs Thatcher told a Conservative audience in Essex: "I hope and believe we shall win tomorrow. But we never know until the last vote is counted. Your vote is absolutely vital."

She said that she was never over-confident. "We never assume victory but we work for it all the way."

Mrs Thatcher spent much of yesterday hammering home her policies on defence, the economy, the unions and education on which she has based her appeal throughout the campaign.

But she again used her starkest language to warn voters against the alternative to a Conservative government.

She said that many people were fearful of the present-day Labour Party, which was quite different from anything that they had known before.

"I believe people are fearful of a defenceless Britain, fearful of the dictat of trade union bosses, fearful of inflation; a fearful Britain's reputation would decline overseas, as it would under Labour", she said. "That is the alternative you must continue to set before the people."

Mrs Thatcher, who appeared cheerful and confident, spent her last campaigning day in coastal marginal seats. A fleet of five helicopters ferried her campaign team and the large press contingent which has accompanied her throughout her tour.

Mrs Thatcher visited the party association headquarters in Southend West, where the 8,033 majority of Mr Paul Channon, her Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was considered to be at risk from the Alliance when the campaign began.

She defined the issues which she said undecided voters should still ponder. Foremost, as it has been throughout, was defence. The name of Britain was synonymous with free-

Agony of indecision for floating voter

By Brian James

Mrs Margaret Waters, housewife and part-time secretary, said she was sorry for the inconvenience, but, despite all that had been said to her, she still has not yet quite made up her mind which party she will elect to govern Britain for the next five years, nor how large a majority she will give it.

"I may not make up my mind until I have the pencil in one hand and the voting paper in the other. Even now one man saying one thing, a single sentence that rings sort of true, will clinch it for me. They could stop me in the street on the way to vote and get me on their side."

To understand why Mrs Waters's decision is of some importance, you should recall an Isaac Asimov story about an American election in the future: computers hum, probing every data bank in the nation to come up with the name of a man in the Mid-West who, in his income and attitudes, education and possessions, prejudices and ambitions, exactly fits the average. Then they ask him to pick the president.

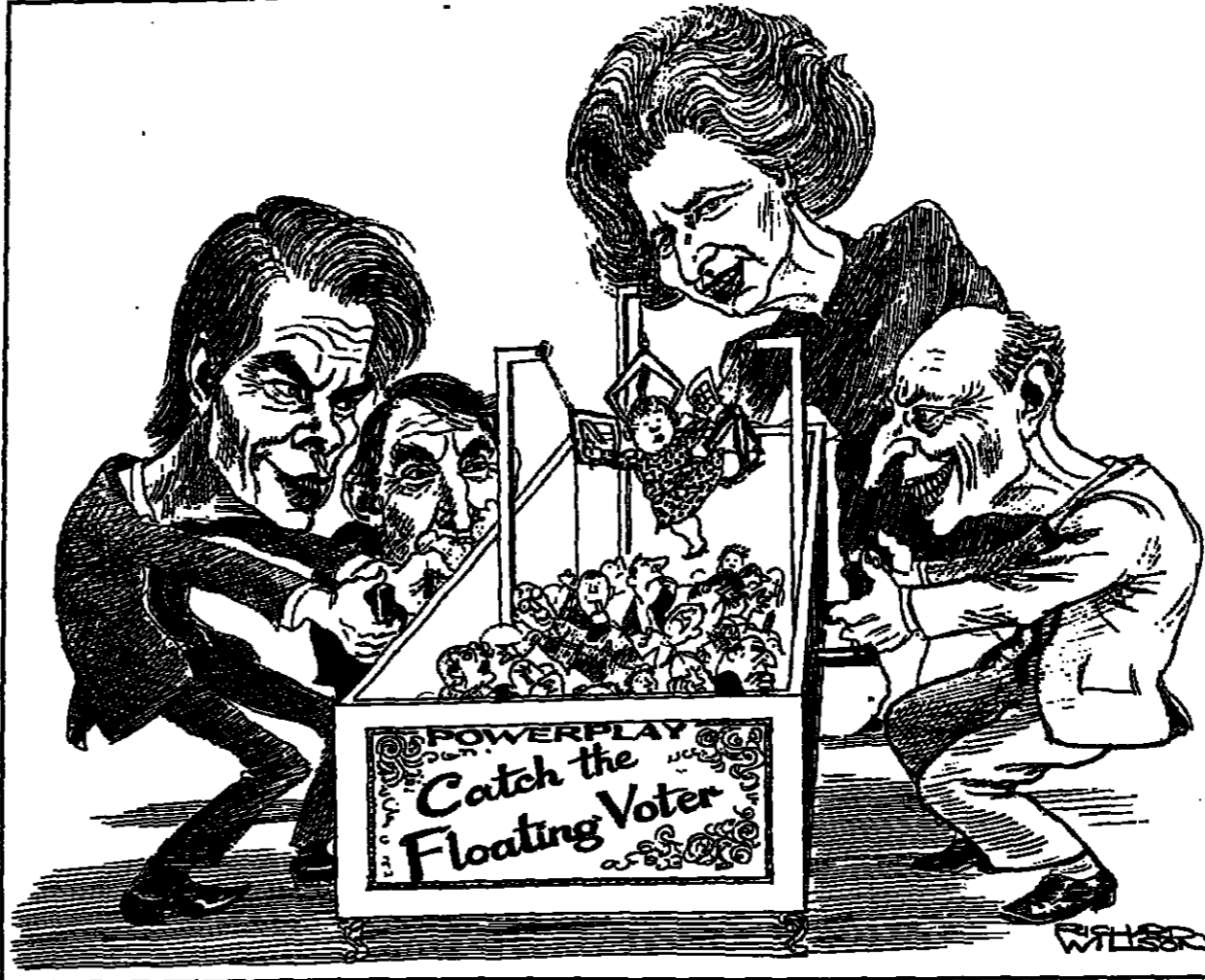
Mrs Waters does not have quite that power. But when MORI was asked by The Times to produce the demographic portrait of the truly undecided 5 per cent, those who in the final decisive hours the parties must capture, those who will finally shape the 1987 election result, the pollsters identified: "Female, early 40s, living with two children and skilled working-class husband in a house with a mortgage - in Birmingham Yardley."

Mrs Waters, aged 42, wife of Adrian, a printer, and mother of Richard, aged 14, and Louise, aged 12, lives in Station Road, Yardley, a constituency that has long been a sort of electoral limbo. Six times it has changed hands since the war, five times swinging with the party that gained power. Mrs Waters voted Tory in 1983.

We decided to watch Mrs Margaret Thatcher's final appeal to the nation together to see if that would resolve her doubts; and while we waited we would try to find out why this archetype "floater" was so undecided.

How much had she been influenced by fear, constrained by what the parties said about each other? We summarized the charges thus: That Labour had a hidden manifesto and, once elected, the party's present moderate image would be replaced by a militant reality.

"I don't believe all the mud-slinging. But yes, this is very much in my mind. Whatever



they say, the militants are there, aren't they... even if they are being silent now."

That the Alliance has muddled policies, no real experience? "Ah, well that's true. It is why I hesitate... if they only had one strong leader, saying exactly what he intends so that I can understand..."

That the Tories are un-caring, looking after only the well off? "What is well off? Adrian and I are doing very well. The Tories have been great for us, there's no denying it. But we would have to be blind or silly not to see that there are people struggling on the bread line."

What then of what the parties said about themselves? How much did Mrs Waters believe of the promises?

From Labour: That they will put more unemployed to work, spend more on the National Health Service and education without the cost falling on ordinary people? "Not a word! By their standards we are not 'ordinary', we are probably 'rich'. It's nonsense."

From the Alliance: That they will represent the moderate middle ground, stop the Conservatives wielding unfettered power? "Yes, I believe that. The Tories have been too strong. That's exactly why I am not sure; the Alliance may

not have the answers - but who else?"

From the Conservatives: That they have strengthened the economy, curbed the trade unions and begun to bring down unemployment. "Yes, most of this is true. That has been their aim, and still their strength. I don't suppose the unemployed would feel the same."

A Labour canvasser knocked on Mrs Waters's door at that moment. "Can we count on your support?" A long slow shake of the head. "Then can we call you undecided?" "Oh, definitely!"

She returned: "Those peo-



Mrs Waters: "A single sentence may clinch it."

ple? We are working class. By that I mean we started with nothing, and having nice things doesn't make us something different. But Labour seems to want to take away what we worked for, take it out on us as though it is our fault that things are aren't perfect for everyone."

We talked then of some of the issues raised in election debate, and Mrs Waters nominated the party whose view most coincided with her own. Law and order: "Tory, definitely. This is a safe enough area, but Handsworth is not a million miles away. And Labour never stop sniping at the police - as though they start the riots."

Defence: "On this I am a real don't know. I would like my children to live in a non-nuclear age. But give all the weapons away... that's talking about a lovely, but unreal world."

The NHS: "It is in a dreadful state. Despite the billions spent on it. So it is not a matter of money but bad management."

Race: "Well I am sure we must have controls on immigration. With the housing and jobs, anything else just doesn't make sense. Labour would let them all come. The Alliance: Well there it is again, you see, I haven't the faintest

what they believe in."

Education: "We are lucky. Richard goes to a smashing comp; Louise to a grammar. Parents should have a choice. Yes, Maggie is all for that. Neil is all against, and again I don't know what the Alliance thinks."

Time now to watch the Conservatives' final broadcast.

At the session when the Prime Minister's rolling rhetoric was underscored by swelling martial music, Mrs Waters grimaced: "That is quite dreadful - right over the top. These TV people think we are silly - don't know what to think or feel?"

When the Margaret Who Has No Doubts had finished speaking the Margaret who is a don't know switched off the television. "Sorry, no. That did nothing for me."

SUMMARY

Spending on adverts increases

The Conservatives spent more than £3.5 million on press advertising during the election campaign, according to an analysis published yesterday.

The Labour Party's total is likely to come to £1.5 million while the Alliance spent £210,000 up to Tuesday.

The figures, published by the magazine Marketing Week, come from Media Expenditure Analysis Limited.

At the last general election in 1983 the Conservatives spent £1.6 million, Labour £600,000 and the Alliance nothing on press advertising.

Polls open until 10 pm

Polling stations are open today from 7am to 10pm. Voters are advised to take their polling cards with them to help officials check off names, a Home Office spokesman said yesterday.

Voters who are on the electoral register but have not yet received polling cards should contact their local town hall.

Tory vote by students

Sixth-form students are more likely to vote Conservative, according to a survey released yesterday by Lancaster University. The survey, conducted on 6,000 students in state public schools and colleges of further education in England and Wales, found that 41 per cent would vote Conservative, 30 per cent Labour and 19 per cent Alliance.

Leaflet attack on Thatcher

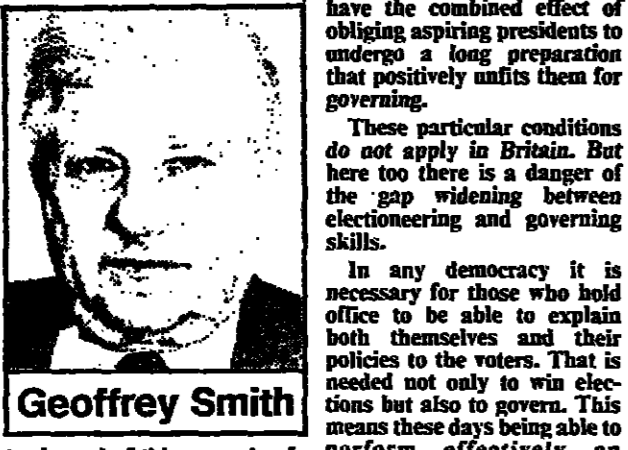
An anonymous leaflet was being distributed in the Prime Minister's Finchley constituency yesterday urging tactical voting to defeat Mrs Thatcher.

The authors claim that right-wing newspapers, "in collusion" with the Government, have been creating a climate of public thinking to keep Mrs Thatcher in power.

Libel writ

Mr Neil Kinnoch issued a libel writ yesterday against the Daily Express over an article which included remarks he had allegedly made at a rally.

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

At the end of this campaign I have a certain sense of foreboding. I am not referring to any possible result, but to the style that has characterized the contest.

More than any other British general election it has been noted for the sophisticated use of advertising techniques. It is these which have won the admiration, sometimes the grudging admiration, of professionals in all parties. It is these which will be remembered, and my fear is that it is these which will be emulated in future elections.

This could easily be mistaken for a partisan point because the techniques have this time been deployed with greatest skill by Labour. But in earlier elections it was the Conservatives who did most to introduce modern advertising methods to British political campaigning.

I dare say the Alliance, previously renowned as the "media party", would happily follow suit if only it had the money. There has been no reluctance on its part to use specialist advertising advisers.

But does it matter anyway? There is, it is true, a great danger of confusing nostalgia with the national interest. If only elections were once again a contest in elegant oratory they would be more aesthetically pleasing.

I am not suggesting, though, that the old style would be the most effective means of communicating with a mass electorate in the television age. New techniques are bound to be adopted. What matters is whether the accomplishments required to win elections bear any relationship to the skills required to govern.

In the United States the proliferation of primary elec-

Lowbrow arguments beat conventional wisdom

By Allan Massie

It is conventional wisdom to say that our divided nation enjoys or suffers a divided press.

On the one hand, the qualities, on the other the tabloids, among which the Daily Mail, Daily Express and Today are thought to have slightly more elevated brows than The Sun and the Daily Mirror.

The conventional wisdom is not always right. Yesterday both the Daily Mirror and the Guardian advised their readers to vote Labour. The Daily Mirror placed its appeal on the front page - "Choose, Privilege and Poverty", and also on page two, opposite "Mirror Girls - Twice The Fun". The Guardian's was on page 12. So far the conventional wisdom holds good. Daily Mirror readers can't be trusted to reach page 12. But examination of the two editorials turns conventional wisdom on its head.

This has made it easier for his specialists to package him. One can hardly blame them for being better in their art than others before them.

Whatever the result of today's voting, Mr Kinnoch is generally regarded as having won the campaign. But it will be disturbing if the capacity to be packaged comes to be regarded as the principal requirement for fighting elections. That has nothing to do with the ability to govern.

Political parties want power. It is no use their cultivating all the governing skills in the world if they spend their lives on the opposition benches. So they will tend to choose leaders who seem likely to win elections. If these are not the leaders who would be most effective in office the quality of government will suffer.

The danger in Britain is less than in the United States because here the choice is made by the parties in one way or another rather than by the wider electorate through primaries. Parties have a better chance of knowing more than the superficial qualities of the candidates.

But my anxiety is that the conclusion that all parties will draw from this campaign is that it is the packaging that pleases, whether or not it proves to have been enough to overcome the Conservative record.

MEDIA WATCH

First, the Mirror piece was far better written. It was clear and confident: "The Labour Party was created to fight privilege, the degradation of poverty, the humiliation of unemployment, the misery of the slums. That is its historic duty." There was some cant: "We are only as strong as the feeblest among us, only as weakly as the neediest", but, however tendentious the argument, it was good stuff.

Mrs Thatcher's political achievement has been to persuade the poor to trust the rich.

The Guardian offered nothing elegant or cogent: "Now it is time to see whether the candor spirit lives in other parts of the forest... The reality today - as endless off-the-record briefings attest, bold boy - is that Mr Kinnoch's sole practical hope of a hung, or whole, way to Downing Street, depends on the Alliance

trade union legislation introduced by Mrs Thatcher" - Robert Maxwell. I suppose that makes the Daily Mirror a shining example of editorial freedom.

If you look to the right, you can see the same phenomenon. The Sun produced a page one opinion, carried over to page two, (opposite "Chris's warm front" on page three) which was more lucid and better argued than the leaders in the Mail, Express or Telegraph. Only a centre page piece by Christopher Booker in the Daily Telegraph, explaining why the stupendous effort to sell Labour as humane, caring and moral gives off such an utter stench of hubbub, was as persuasive.

Today contented itself by posing 10 questions you should ask yourself. If you gave the right answers, you would vote Alliance. The Independent meanwhile, too high-minded of course to ad-

vice its readers, instead advised the new health minister to consult the Alliance manifesto.

Otherwise it was the day of Mr Healey's TV row. It was front page news for the Daily Express ("Healey the hypocrite") and the Daily Mail. It squeezed into a corner of The Sun's front page ("Denis Blasts TV Girl"). The Daily Telegraph featured it on page one also. The Daily Mirror had it on page four: "Angry Denis savages dirty tricks Diamond". Well, it depends how you see it.

Finally, the Mirror had a grand rhetorical centre spread called "Thatcher's Britain", showing the faces of unemployment, decaying education, homelessness, crime and the exhausted NHS. Splendid photographs which could have been taken any time since the invention of the camera. Words can lie but pictures do it better.

Britain and the US differ in what elections are for. Here the general election determines in one single ballot a national leader. In the US voters are called on to make dozens of choices, picking not only a head of state and head of government, but senators, congressmen, governors, mayors, chief justices, state attorneys and a range of local officials as well as deciding, "propositions" or local referenda, such questions to use a recent California example, as the dumping of toxic waste, how to treat AIDS victims and whether English should be the official language. And as more and more propositions are added to the ballot sheet, so US elections become more and more all-encompassing than those in Britain.

country's vastness. Conditions in various parts of the country are so different that national debate on the issues is virtually impossible. Whereas people in Glasgow and Guildford equally acknowledge, despite regional variations, the major themes of this campaign - schools, housing, unemployment, taxation - the people of New Hampshire and Texas would have completely different perceptions of the same issues. Education is a state, not a federal, responsibility.

American presidential elections therefore tend to focus on much broader themes: the mood of the nation, America's position in the world, foreign affairs. By contrast, state elections often turn entirely on a crisis or concern peculiar only to that community.

The compressed nature of British elections also means that spending is on a scale laughable in the US. One has only to compare the £100,000, the total war chest for the Scottish National Party, with the \$12 million spent by Senator Jesse Helms during his last state senatorial campaign in North Carolina. The enormous funds raised by Political Action Committees

SAYINGS OF THE DAY

- I don't assume too much from straw people voting in straw polls; there is no substitute for real people voting tomorrow - Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.
- People have a fear of the present Labour Party that they had not had of Labour Parties in the past - Mrs Thatcher.
- It is not greatness, it is the self-deluding vanity of a fading Emperor and her courtiers - Mr Neil Kinnoch on the Tory record.
- I can confirm unequivocally there is no intention to privatize Job Centres - Lord Young, Employment Minister.
- We have respected the electorate, we have trusted them. Now the question is, will they trust us? - Mr David Owen, leader of the SDP.
- I don't want a shouting match. That is what I am treated to every Tuesday and Thursday in the House of Commons - Mrs Thatcher.

Despite showbiz, Britain and US are polls apart

Michael Binyon, Washington correspondent for The Times, compares elections on both sides of the Atlantic.

Kind of... The...

Moderation...

ELECTION 87 X

Kinnock speaks of 'last day for Thatcherism'

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock made his final appeal to the electorate last night, claiming that Labour had won the general election campaign and today would be the last day of Thatcherism.

Almost four weeks to the day since he launched his party's campaign, he told a packed Cardiff rally: "We have taken the politics of this country by storm. We've won the arguments. We've won them on the grounds of making common cause in this divided nation."

In an eleven-hour attempt to prove the opinion polls wrong and win the crucial votes to would put him in Downing Street, the Labour leader called for a fresh start after the "Tory lies and cover-ups, arm-twisting and toadying, back-stabbing and dirty dealing and press-threatening and truth economizing and sneering that had dominated the Thatcher years."

He predicted that, with a Labour government, Britain could get back to living in the twentieth century. That was what the general election was about.

If Thatcherism continued, Britain would be faced with a poor law state, not a welfare state; a warehouse economy, not a manufacturing economy; a divided kingdom not a United Kingdom.

The Labour leader, in one of his toughest attacks on Mrs Margaret Thatcher, compared the Prime Minister to a tyrant, and said every tyrant in the world had known had acted in the name of their own freedom.

"Freedom for the carp means death to the minnows. Freedom for the fox means death to the rabbits. We hear much of freedom from Mrs Thatcher.

"We hear her violently warning of the menaces to it. We hear her constant alarms against the dangers to it.

"And then we hear her define it. And whatever she does and whenever she does that, the definition of freedom always ends up with a reference to a need to buy."

Mr Denis Healey yesterday dismissed the Venice summit as the "Grand Banal" (our Political Reporter writes).

Labour's shadow Foreign Secretary lampooned the deliberations of the leaders of the seven biggest Western nations, saying that their communiques had merely trotted out the platitudes of previous years and had had nothing new to say about combating terrorism.

They had not given Mrs Thatcher a "ringing endorsement of her economic policies", as had been suggested, and he was worried about the "evasive" form of words deployed on the Gulf crisis.

It was clear that President Reagan was contemplating an attack by his bombers on Iran and Mrs Thatcher, once the election was over, was poised to repeat the "disastrous errors" of the Libyan adventure by leading support.

There was a risk of the Gulf conflict's spreading to involve the superpowers, Mr Healey said.

He was speaking at Labour's final press conference in London where Mr Kinnock, making only his fourth appearance of the campaign in the capital, told reporters that they were listening to "a master of the university of hyperbole."

The life of the nation would be diminished if Mr Healey chose to restrain himself, Mr Kinnock said, warmly squeezing

the arm of his front-bench veteran and former Cabinet minister.

Mr Healey, who earlier in the campaign likened Mrs Thatcher to Stalin, also found himself on the defensive over his claim that the Prime Minister would put the world on the path to nuclear "extinction".

She had told the Russian people that nuclear weapons were the only means enabling a small country to stand up to a large one, he said.

That, Mr Healey said, meant that she was repudiating collective security and was inviting every nation in the world to include in a "frantic" scramble to acquire its own atomic arsenal.

Mrs Thatcher had also said that socialism was "evil" and had made clear that she was bent on destroying it. "That, I fear, is a recipe for the end of the human race."

Earlier, Mr Kinnock had been equally dismissive of the summit, saying that its communiques were notorious for their superficiality.

A Labour government would try to secure different commitments and outcomes, particularly in the economic sphere.

Labour received a boost yesterday with a Marplan poll showing the party to be leading in four of the five key South Wales marginal seats (the Press Association reports).

The poll, for the *South Wales Echo* and based on 500 interviews in each constituency, indicated that the Alliance was being badly squeezed between Labour and the Tories.

Across the total sample Labour was on 42 per cent, the Tories on 38 per cent and the Alliance on 17 per cent.



Lord Morpeth, the Liberal Alliance candidate in Easington, who is hoping to overturn a Labour majority of almost 15,000 (Photograph: Ted Ditchburn).

Lordly ex-lancer tilting at pit-wheels

By Gavin Bell

Manny Shinwell once observed that in Easington you don't count Labour votes, you weigh them.

For 65 years, the Labour Party has been as much part of the North-east mining constituency as the pit shafts that burrow deep into its coastline and five miles out to sea.

Any attempt to challenge socialist supremacy in the seat held by the likes of Sidney Webb, Ramsay MacDonald and Shinwell himself is bound to be regarded by even the most charitable as Quixotic.

Yet such is the task conferred upon the Liberal Alliance candidate, Lord George Morpeth, heir to the Earl of Carlisle and late of the

9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's).

The image of an aristocratic old soldier tilting at windmills (or, in this case, pit-wheels) is appealing, but unfair.

Lord Morpeth appears devoid of the romantic illusions of Cervantes's hero, as demonstrated by his widely-publicized decision earlier this year (which he announced in a letter to *The Times*) to terminate in protest at defence cuts a 20-year military career.

He says: "I express cold anger, not bitterness, at the decay, deprivation and demoralization that I see around me in Easington."

He is underterred by Labour's 1983 majority of almost 15,000 and regards Mr Shinwell's remark as cynical.

"I am fighting two conservative parties. Labour is reactionary and complacent. People tell me they want a change. Durham people are honest and straightforward. If indeed, they want a change, I can expect to be elected."

Lord Morpeth, at 38, brings to the contest a highly developed sense of history, as the latest in a family line of soldiers and statesmen involved in politics in the north of England for 800 years.

Of 14 professions who bore his courtesy title, eight have been Whigs or Liberal MPs. In the north of the constituency the seaport of Seaham, with its harbour and colliery, was created by another ancestor, the third Marquess of Londonderry. The

seafarer has a statue of his great-grandfather, the sixth Marquess.

Asked to explain his choice of party, Lord Morpeth quotes at length from John Stuart Mill's *Essay on Liberty*.

He appears genuinely appalled by the casualties of a rapidly declining mining industry. He suggests that a programme to reclaim beaches, polluted by coal waste and sewage, for leisure facilities would stimulate the local economy and create jobs.

At Merton Welfare Hall, Lord Morpeth's challenge is dismissed with barely restrained contempt by Mr John Cummings, the Labour candidate.

"How can the son of an earl represent a mining commu-

nity? It's quite pathetic, really. We don't take lightly to carpet-baggers here."

This last remark was taken to include the Conservative candidate, a solicitor from Widdowson, who is not regarded as a serious contender.

Mr Cummings, a mining electrician sponsored by the National Union of Mineworkers, confidently expects to increase Labour's majority.

There are signs that Labour's hegemony may be weakening with successive mine closures and that local farmers are flocking to Lord Morpeth's standard.

Few expect the bold ex-lancer to unseat Labour's champion this week, but many believe he may severely dent the red shield.

Poll-conscious City can turn rumour to riches

By David Miller

Has the City been manipulating for profit the high-profile publication by press and television of the frequent opinion polls during the election campaign?

The whiff of scandal has been hanging over EC2, Fleet Street and the television networks. Anticipation by smart money movers of some of last week's polls, which showed Labour narrowing the gap, will have made several personal fortunes should Mrs Margaret Thatcher gain her expected victory today.

Did the rumour of Labour's advance come from inspired guesswork or more sinister, a cleverly manipulated leak? Worse still, do unscrupulous brokers feed rumours which will subsequently be found to have no substance?

Mr John Harvey of the Harris Research Organization says with concern: "I'm dismayed at the City's over-reaction, by people supposed to behave with judgement and intelligence."

Mr Gavin Davies, the UK director for Goldman Sachs Economic Research Group,

condemns the practice but acknowledges the potential. "Some people can be tempted to spread rumour but you have to be extremely cautious to say it does happen. There's no evidence. It could be illegal and it's certainly unethical."

"But if you can get a rumour believed in the market, you have potential for making very large sums. Someone holding an option on share rights in gilts, equities or currencies... can quadruple their profit if the price moves. You don't have to put much down to make a lot."

There has been rumour of "appalling subterfuge" in the City, Mr Davies says, with telephone calls to television companies by stockbrokers falsely claiming to be university researchers or staff at one of the party headquarters.

Yet opinion generally among pollsters and economists is that the City, and the electorate, would be far more exposed to manipulation if the publication of polls was banned, which some politicians would like to see. So, would 29 per cent of the public, and that same element

would also like to eliminate election broadcasts.

"If the publication of polls was banned, the situation would be 10 times as bad," Mr Bob Worcester, the head of MORI, says. "Then there would be nothing honest to correct the rumours. Every stockbroking firm would commission its own poll, leak a 'rumour', and then leak the 'truth'."

Mr Davies agrees and adds that the shorter the interval between polls the better, confirming or contradicting each other, because this reduces the scope for making commercial profits. "The absence of published polls would give a massive edge to those in the know on private political party polls," Mr Davies says.

Dr Robert Waller, former Oxford research fellow and author of the much-acclaimed *Almanac of British Politics*, is the chief analyst for Harris. He is worried by the accusation that polls influence the electorate - never mind the City - as if that were damaging.

"There is evidence that polls do not make people vote a certain way," he says, "but I

cannot see what is wrong if they influence people. If nobody wants the information, the polls cannot be doing harm. If people do want it, they have the right to be given it."

Evidence of influence is plentiful. In the by-elections at Brentwood in 1983 and at Greenwich this year, the information from opinion polls enabled the electorate to judge that they should vote Alliance to prevent the Labour candidates, Mr Peter Tatchell and Ms Deirdre Wood from reaching Parliament.

Dr Waller insists that polls do not have any bandwagon effect: indeed, there is evidence in Britain and in West Germany that people subconsciously resist an unchallenged degree of political power. In the last three British elections the leading party's advantage has reduced over the last three days.

Aware of the sensitivity of the information available, Dr Waller, Mr Worcester and other pollsters are increasing their companies' security measures. Today Harris conducts an 'exit poll' for ITN, interviewing a 19,500 national

sample as people leave the polling booth. When the information is fed into the computer at Richmond, only Dr Waller will know the overall position.

By mid-morning, he will be able to tell the election result, because the voting pattern of the first few hours will remain consistent over the country throughout the day. Only if the margin should be under 3 per cent would he not know, 10 hours before the rest of the nation, who will be stepping into No 10 on Friday.

"The danger is when TV companies have the information," Mr Davies says. "They're not used to hiding information, they're more accustomed to releasing it. Things have tightened up considerably. Before television became accustomed to being bounded by telephone calls, you could phone the right person at a studio and be told what a poll result revealed."

Mr Davies considers that the market has virtually decided that Mrs Thatcher has won, and will be shifted only by any co-ordinated change in opinion polls.

A flutter on Fancy Dress

By Roland Rudd

"What are your odds on the Rainbow Alliance Insane Extremist Section winning at Brixton?" The bookmaker at Corals was stumped. He reached for his political bible and flicked through the list of parliamentary constituencies. There was definitely no such candidate standing. He relayed the disappointing news.

"Well what are your longest odds then?" asked the caller. "The Fancy Dress Party: 10,000 to one to win at Darford." The caller snapped it up and put down a pound. If Darford's voters fall for the man who takes to the streets in a batman suit, one person stands to gain.

But the Fancy Dress Party notwithstanding, it has been one of the most predictable and pedestrian elections for the bookmakers in years. The problem, according to Coral's press officer, Mr Wally Pyrah, is that the Conservatives never looked liked losing. The odds on a Tory victory only moved from one to six to one to nine.

A punter broke the records last Tuesday by putting

£100,000 on the Conservatives winning the largest number of seats. At six to one he could win £5,000 after paying tax.

A Labour supporter in Burnley yesterday put the first bet for a week on a Labour overall majority; at £8,000 at 12 to one, he stands to win £96,000 if Mr Kinnock wins.

However, the majority of punters are no more anxious to gamble on the Alliance than they are on the fringe candidates. Despite moving the odds to 250 to one (from 25 to one), Corals have not had any bets on the Alliance for over a fortnight.

William Hill experienced the same problem. They consistently increased their odds on the Social Democrats and Liberals winning the most seats, from 25 to one to 500 to one. But few were willing to oblige. The reverse occurred with the Conservatives. Despite shortening the odds on a Tory victory, from one to five to one to nine, the bets continued to pour in.

"By late Tuesday afternoon we had had enough," says

Williams Hill's Media Relations Manager, Mr Graham Sharpe. "We refused to take any more bets on a Conservative win of any sort."

The odds on Labour winning the majority of seats started on six to one and has ended on six to one.

Mr Ron Pollard, the Public Relations Officer at Ladbrokes, says he is hard pressed to remember a duller election. "In previous elections there has always been some kind of movement in the polls. But this election is quite amazing for its predictability; no matter how the campaigns are run, what gaffes the candidates make the polls remain remarkably static."

And so did Ladbrokes' odds. Apart for the leap in the Alliance's odds - from 25 to one to 500 to one - there has been no volatility to speak of. The Conservatives were one to eight, now they are two to 17. Labour has remained at six to one.

Even the odds on a hung parliament have only moved one point from four to one to three to one.

Moderation from left, right and centre

Mr Michael Irvine, the Conservative candidate, is visiting an old folks' home on the outskirts of Ipswich. Political promises do not mean much to people waiting to die and, with the exception of one lady who applauds him enthusiastically, his reception is decidedly muted.

He moves round talking in turn to the occupants of what he and the deputy chairman of the local party have to apologize for calling the common room; common does not have quite the same connotation as it did in Mr Irvine's Oxford days, and lounge is the preferred term.

"Yes, I do quite agree. I think she does a wonderful job, and is enormously admired and respected all over the world," he tells one woman. It is the Queen they are talking about, not the Prime Minister.

Mr Irvine, a breezy 47-year-old barrister, is attempting to win Ipswich from Labour's Mr Ken Weetch, who held it at the last election with a majority of little more than 1,000. It has been a highly marginal seat since almost anyone can remember: a booklet provided by Mr Weetch's agent, Mr John Mowles, discloses that the winning margin has been less than 1,000 on four occasions since 1923 and was down to 13 in 1970. Nor does it always follow national trends.

Ipswich is a pleasant, down to earth sort of place, which has retained much of its market town character; rel-

atively prosperous but unpretentious, with nice old buildings and narrow alleys tucked in among modern developments. People appear to have little taste for extremism.

The Ipswich Labour Party, for example, must be among the most moderate in Britain, firmly wedded to the traditions of men like Herbert Morrison and Ernest Bevin. The party and the ruling group on the council work closely together and take a responsible, pragmatic approach which even their opponents concede is effective. "We don't even talk about left and right here," Mr Mowles says.

Since October 1974 it has been a Labour oasis in a surrounding sea of staunchly Conservative rural seats.

"There is a saying that people in Ipswich and Suffolk do different," Mr Mowles says. "As one who was born and bred here, I don't really believe that, but we do make up our own minds."

Mr Weetch himself is the archetypal good constituency MP, well known and evidently well liked, who makes a point of travelling on the buses and being seen around. Sponsored by the Confederation of Health Service Employees, he takes a particular interest in the health services, and is stressing Tory shortcomings in education and housing.

One of the few acrimonious campaign incidents came when the local evening paper eulogized Mr Weetch in such glowing terms that the Labour Party reprinted the article in

their election leaflet. The Conservatives thought that a bit below the belt, if not an infringement of copyright.

Mr Irvine is training his guns on Labour's defence policies. The four US military bases in Suffolk put some £180 million a year into the county's economy, he points out, and their closure would threaten not only national security but local prosperity.

His chances should be helped by the fact that Ipswich has not suffered any serious economic blows. Unemployment is below 10 per cent, the docks are flourishing and agriculture still makes a useful contribution.

Moreover it has been successful in attracting service industries, including the Guardian Royal Exchange insurance group and the brokers, Willis, Faber & Dumas, with a consequent increase in the middle-class, white-collar working population.

Mr Hugh Nicholson, the SDP candidate, works for ICI and commutes daily to London, one reason why he wants to see more spent on public transport. He is confident of increasing the Alliance vote, "but clearly we are starting from third place."

He believes there is a lot of discontent with Thatcherism. He thinks the SDP will appeal to those who want to get rid of Mrs Thatcher but do not want to vote Labour.

John Young

Local issue will decide talisman's fate

The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world, and the party that wins Gravesend, or Gravesham as it is now called, governs the United Kingdom.

The steady stream of ministers and shadow ministers who have visited the constituency in the past three weeks, despite a Tory majority in 1983 of 8,463, bears witness to the eagerness of all contestants to win this political armlet.

The seat has been held by the winning party in general election after general election since the 1930s.

Labour received a psychological boost just before the election when it achieved equality with the Tories, at 22 seats each on Gravesham Borough Council, with the Alliance failing to hold a seat. The Conservatives, however, claim an increased share of the popular vote.

A microcosm of the nation's politics, Gravesham is steeped in history. It used to depend on heavy industries, but many are now closed down with consequent unemployment. A leafy southern finger of rural villages runs up the slope of the North Downs. In that hinterland lies the greatest Tory strength, while Northfleet, next to Gravesend on the Thames holds strongly Labour wards. The battle will largely depend on the vote of Gravesend itself, where General Gordon served in the Army and where the guns which guarded the Thames against the Dutch still point across the river.

All three candidates agree

that the first issue in the election is local: the fate of the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital. The Tory-controlled local health authority has proposed that some hospital services should be moved out of the constituency. All three candidates oppose this.

Dirty tricks have been being alleged in a tough campaign. The Conservatives put up some hoardings near the Labour headquarters. They were broken down, re-erected and then the £300 worth of wood, complete with posters, disappeared. The Alliance has lost a poster from a prime site on a main road at least four times but a keen supporter has a supply of new posters ready to replace the missing display.

Alliance charges of racism

Mr Martin Coleman, the

Conservative candidate, Mr Jacques Arnold, have been angrily repudiated. At first Mr Arnold could not remember writing the piece in 1971. He later found a copy and says it simply describes the Immigration Bill at that time and that the offending paragraphs set out non-racial proposals which have since been adopted.

Mr Arnold, director of a travel services company, has an unusual educational background for a Conservative: educated in Brazil, by correspondence and at the London School of Economics. He is a meticulous planner and had a street-by-street canvassing programme ready when the campaign started.

Mr Martin Coleman, the

Labour candidate and once leader of Brent Council, refuses charges that he is on the extreme left. A lawyer lecturing at Brunel University, he lives in the constituency.

He believes the council elections showed that the Alliance vote is fading and that he will pick up a good slice of their share of the vote as people realize that the choice in Gravesham is between Labour and Conservative. He finds people telling him that they can do without tax cuts if it means they can retain the local hospital.

That issue also impressed Mr Neil Kinnock, the only party leader who has visited the constituency during this election. He was so impressed that he committed himself and his shadow cabinet to maintaining the local hospital services.

At the Alliance headquarters, a small shop, a note on the door said: "Back in 10 minutes," hardly an indication of a tough campaigning stance but appearances were deceptive. Like his leader, Mr David Steel, Mr Iain Crawford has had a battle bus (weekends only) which he has borrowed from a collector of vintage vehicles.

Mr Crawford, a Scot, sees the battle bus as "a fun way to campaign".

"You have got to have some fun in an election campaign", he says.

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John Winder

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

Ipswich

CANDIDATES
K. Weetch (Lab)
M. Irvine (C)
H. Nicholson (SDP/All)
D. Lettice (WRP)

1981 % Own occ	58.3
1981 % Loc Auth	29.0
1981 % Black/Asian	3.4
1981 % Mid cl	44.1
1981 % Prof man	12.9
1986 electorate	68,748
1983 General Election: Weetch, K (Lab) 22,191; Cottrell, Dr Elizabeth (Con) 21,114; Miernik, Mrs P (Lib/All) 7,222; Pearson, A (BNP) 235. Mai 1,077.	

Key: % own occ: proportion owning their homes; % Loc auth: proportion of council tenants; % Black/Asian: proportion from New Commonwealth or Pakistan; % Mid cl: proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof man: professions & higher management

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

Gravesham

CANDIDATES
J. Arnold (C)
M. Coleman (Lab)
R.L. Crawford (L/All)

1981 % Own occ	62.7
1981 % Loc Auth	27.4
1981 % Black/Asian	6.8
1981 % Mid cl	51.3
1981 % Prof man	17.1
1986 electorate	73,257
1983 General Election: Brimton, T D (C) 25,968; Ovenden, J F (Lab) 17,505; Horton, M (SDP/All) 10,822; Johnson, P (NP) 420; Sewell, M (Eco) 103. Maj 8,463.	

Key: % own occ: proportion owning their homes; % Loc auth: proportion of council tenants; % Black/Asian: proportion from New Commonwealth or Pakistan; % Mid cl: proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof man: professions & higher management

Owen sees a new era of reason and cooperation

By Martin Fletcher and Sheila Gunn

Dr David Owen claimed last night that Britain stood "on the threshold of a new era of reason and co-operation in politics".

Refusing to contemplate anything other than a hung parliament, the SDP leader said that the British electorate would force voters to sit down together to talk, listen and negotiate. "On the anvil of the Cabinet table a new political metal will be forged. The Alliance will weld together the best government this country has seen for many a decade."

Speaking in a school in his Plymouth constituency just hours before the polls open this morning, he declared: "Mrs Thatcher's heartless rule can and must be ended."

He continued: "We measure the wealth of our nation not only in the vaults of the Bank of England but on the streets of some of the decaying inner cities, in the closed down wards of hard-pressed hospitals and the lost generation of young people without work."

In a joint message with Mr David Steel to Alliance candidates and party workers Dr Owen said the electorate had the choice "to say loud and clear, 'We need a different political system from the two-party dog fights that has served us ill over the past years'."

"It is time the voters made the politicians work in the best interests of everyone. Our message to you is 'Go' to it, win over the undecided, and cock a snook at both the Tories and Labour and then we will peak on polling day."

Dr Owen predicted last night that up to one-third of the electorate could vote Alliance today. He claimed that the last minute surge for the Alliance was underway and quoted local polls showing that the Alliance was on course to win key marginals such as Cambridge — where its

candidate is Mrs Shirley Williams — Cheltenham and Plymouth Drake, the neighbouring constituency to his own.

He claimed that the Alliance would do well in its target seats and said the map of Britain would resemble a quilt. "Within that quilt you are going to see patches of gold, patches of red and patches of blue. At the end of the day I still believe you are going to find no one had an outright majority."

Dr Owen ruled out the possibility of the Alliance vote staying in the low 20s.

In a final push to defeat Mrs Thatcher, Mr Steel last night urged voters to elect Alliance seats to defeat the Tories. Grasping hold of the first tentative signs of a weakening in the Conservative position, the Liberal leader disclosed that he is relying on tactical voting to boost Alliance chances in crucial Conservative-held seats.

Liberal campaign strategists are now openly pessimistic of gaining more than a dozen seats, mainly in Scotland and in the South of England, because of what they see as Mr Kinnoch's success in galvanising Labour support. They also fear they will lose a few Alliance-held seats in urban areas, such as Leeds and Stockton, where Labour is the main rival.

Back on the Scottish borders for a series of poll meetings yesterday, Mr Steel urged electors "to make their vote as effective as possible. But he refused to call on Alliance voters in hopeless seats to support Labour in order to oust the Conservatives. It was essential that the Alliance polled as many votes as possible, he said.

Mr Steel took comfort from the TVS poll of 60 southern seats and an ITN poll in Cheltenham, suggesting a

growing swing to the Alliance. "There is no reason to expect this is peculiar to Cheltenham," he said. "I expect it to be typical of our target seats. The floating voters and the waverers are now all that stands between Mrs Thatcher and a third term."

Speaking in Peebles last night he said: "The Tories must not win. Floating voters are struggling towards the Alliance rescue ship as Mr Kinnoch's boat founders. To those who come from the shark-infested waters of the Tory Party, we say: 'Welcome aboard'."

At the last press conference in London, Mr Steel said: "The return of Mrs Thatcher would have the effect of further tearing this country apart. The Alliance is the only party that can make a difference to the result. We are expecting a late surge in our support. I must say it is very late — but it is there."

Dr Owen also hinted that the late support may come from disenchanted Conservatives in the south. It is a heart-warming fact, he said, that the Alliance had found an echo in the prosperous south from people who cared about unemployment.

The weakness of both our campaigns and Labour's campaign is that we have not been able to create that 'together' feeling, Dr Owen admitted.

Defending his strategy of not going straight for Labour he said one of the greatest criticisms from the party faithful was that too long was spent attacking the other parties. He again insisted the voters will not give Mrs Thatcher an overall majority.

"I am planting my hopes on what I sense out there in the electorate. My gut instinct is that people do not want another period of an unfeared Thatcher government — and they are not going to vote tactically."



Mr Paddy Ashdown, Alliance education spokesman, gives an impromptu lesson at Oat Hill School, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

Tactical voting fails to impress the analysts

By Paul Valley

Today's election, whatever else its implications, might well consign tactical voting to the lexicon of defunct political phrases. To take the place alongside such erstwhile favourites as social credits, stop economics and flexible rationing.

For all the fanfare earlier this year about the potential of tactical voting, the evidence of the opinion polls during the campaign proper is that the tactic has failed to take a significant vote in any significant way.

The two organizations established to promote the notion, the allegedly neutral Centre for Electoral Choice and the avowedly anti-Thatcher 1987 group, were still refusing yesterday to concede defeat on the issue, but other political analysts were unimpressed.

Of course, by-elections, and to a lesser extent general elections, have always featured a certain amount of tactical voting. Indeed, Mr Bob Worcester, of MORI, said: "The biggest psychological surprise of this election has been the number of people who were already tactically voting."

That was disclosed because pollsters began this year to ask questions about how individuals would temper their vote if their preferred candidate stood no chance. "In Conservative/Labour marginals a quarter of Alliance supporters say their main motive is to keep out someone else. In Conservative/Alliance marginals one in six Alliance voters are really Labour supporters wanting to keep the Tories out."

A Gallup poll three weeks ago actually showed that 23 per cent would consider voting tactically.

But tactical voting as a nationwide concept was based on a wider thesis. The last government was elected by a minority of voters, it argued, so if the anti-Thatcher majority could find a way to unite she could be ousted.

Mr David Cowling, the tactical analyst at ITN, has reservations. "It was based on the scenario that during the campaign Labour would shake itself in the foot again and that the Alliance would benefit from a ratchet effect: that its vote would gain rise proportionately but this time from a baseline of 26 per cent."

"On the basis of this, the Alliance tried to hijack the notion by implying that tactical voting was the same as voting for the Alliance. But the success of the Labour campaign has scuppered that."

Other analysts contend that tactical voting could never have had a decisive effect. Mr Brian Goswami, of MORI, feels that there are four fundamental flaws in the theory. "First it assumes that all the non-Tory vote is an anti-Tory vote. In reality many Alliance voters would rather support the Tories than Labour. Second, it assumes a false notion of marginality: though the Alliance is second to the Tories in more seats, it is Labour who is actually nearer to overturning the Tories in a greater number of marginals."

"Fundamental flaw number three is that it assumes voters have the necessary knowledge to know how to vote tactically: the reality is that half the people polled didn't even know whether they were in a marginal or not. Of those who did, half were not aware which parties were first, second and third."

"The fourth flaw is that, to have worked on a large and effective scale, it would have needed the tacit or overt approval of the party leaders and there was no chance of that, given the state of personal relations between Owen and the Labour leaders."

When it comes to the crunch tactical voting can work only if the electorate has the necessary information on which to act.

Mr Worcester feels that, except in handful of constituencies, the voters have "imperfect data". A series of polls in nine marginals in the North-west, which MORI has conducted for Granada Television, illustrates the point.

The swing from Conservative to Labour varies considerably from a high point of +10 per cent down to -2.5 per cent.

To attempt to vote tactically using only a regional poll (which shows a +1.5 per cent swing) for guidance would produce what Mr Neil Kinnoch called the politics of the fruit machine and in the cases of the Cwyd South West and Littleborough and Saddleworth seats an anti-Tory vote for the Alliance could actually produce the opposite result of that intended.

Constituency	Fieldwork dates (adults)	Sample	Swing C to Lab
Liverpool/Broadgreen	May 20-27	326	+9.5
Manchester/Widlington	May 20-28	805	+10
Copeland	May 22-31	810	+2.5
Bolton NE	May 22-June 1	804	+1
Hazel Grove	May 21-June 1	789	+3.5
Bury N	May 22-June 2	814	+2
Chwyd SW	May 23-June 4	819	+6
Littleborough	May 23-June 4	806	+3.5
Saddleworth	May 22-June 4	799	+2
Total	May 20-June 4	7,272	+3.5
Overall poll of NW	May 19-21	1,008	+1.5
Overall poll of NW	June 2	1,044	+1

Source: MORI

Ups and downs of the polls

POLL WATCH

By David Butler

Positively and negatively, polls have dominated this election. They have been more numerous than ever before and they have largely told a simple story.

The Conservatives throughout have preserved a big enough lead over Labour to guarantee a comfortable majority. Labour has stayed equally comfortably ahead of the Alliance.

The early boost to Labour has buoyed the party up to the end, even though it has fallen from 36 per cent to 34 per cent over the last three weeks. The polls have told us that Mr Kinnoch has put on the most impressive campaign in that his rating has risen from 18 per cent to 37 per cent while Mrs Thatcher's has stayed still. But the fervour and authority of Mr Kinnoch, which have won such plaudits, do not appear to have won any new votes.

The Alliance, too, has put on a professional campaign but both its leaders and its party workers have been visibly dismayed by the obstinate refusal of the polls to move much above 20 per cent. Until the last day or two, their only comfort was that the early slide had stopped.

OPINION POLL RATINGS

Field work	Poll	Con	Lab	All	Other	Size	Published
May 13	Marplan	47.0	30.0	23.0	0.0	1,920	Daily Express
May 13-14	Harris	42.0	33.0	23.0	2.0	1,000	Observer
May 11-14	MORI	44.0	30.5	25.0	1.0	1,521	Sunday Times
May 16-17	Harris	42.0	32.0	24.0	2.0	1,068	TV-am
May 18	Marplan	41.0	33.0	24.0	2.0	1,392	Today
May 18-21	Harris	43.0	34.0	23.0	1.0	978	TV-am
May 19-20	Gallup	42.0	33.6	23.0	1.2	2,540	Daily Telegraph
May 21	Marplan	41.0	33.0	21.0	4.0	1,517	Guardian
May 20-21	Harris	41.0	34.0	22.0	3.0	1,068	Observer
May 21	MORI	44.0	31.0	24.0	1.0	1,328	Sunday Times
May 20-22	Gallup	42.0	33.0	23.0	2.0	1,432	Sunday Telegraph
May 22-25	Harris	42.0	37.0	21.0	4.0	1,075	TV-am
May 26	Marplan	42.0	35.0	20.0	3.0	1,658	Today
May 26-27	Gallup	42.5	34.0	23.0	1.5	2,536	Daily Telegraph
May 28-29	Harris	42.0	32.0	22.0	1.0	1,067	TV-am
May 28	Marplan	41.5	32.0	22.0	3.0	1,553	Guardian
May 27-29	MORI	44.0	32.0	23.0	1.0	1,188	Sunday Times
May 27-29	Gallup	41.5	34.0	22.0	2.0	1,377	Sunday Telegraph
May 27-28	Harris	41.0	37.0	21.0	1.0	1,072	Observer
June 1	Marplan	41.0	33.0	21.0	2.0	1,068	Today
June 2	Harris	42.0	35.0	20.0	2.0	1,378	TV-am
June 2	MORI	43.0	34.0	23.0	3.0	1,378	Sunday Times
June 2-3	Gallup	40.5	36.5	21.5	1.5	2,533	Daily Telegraph
June 4	Marplan	44.0	34.0	20.0	2.0	1,570	Guardian
June 3-4	Marplan	43.0	35.0	21.0	1.0	1,068	Today
June 3-4	Harris	44.0	32.0	24.0	2.0	1,068	TV-am
June 3-4	MORI	43.0	32.0	24.0	1.0	1,328	Sunday Times
June 3-6	Harris	43.0	33.0	22.0	2.0	2,116	TV-am
June 4	Marplan	44.0	34.0	20.0	2.0	1,679	Guardian
June 3-5	Gallup	41.5	34.5	22.5	1.5	2,725	Daily Telegraph
June 4	MORI	45.0	32.0	21.0	2.0	1,575	Guardian
June 5	Marplan	43.0	35.0	21.0	2.0	1,068	Today
June 5-9	Gallup	41.0	34.0	23.0	1.5	2,535	Daily Telegraph

"Until the last day or two..." The possibility of a late swing of the sort seen in 1970 and 1974 has given hope both to Labour and to the Alliance. Until today nothing in the national polls suggested such hope was being justified. So the only place to find reassurance was in the marginal seat

ent while Gallup said they had swung only 1 1/2 per cent.

There is no easy way to reconcile such findings (and earlier in the campaign a similar conflict was evident in other marginal polls). Polls in individual constituencies too, have been confusing. In Birmingham our poll shows the Conservatives holding their marginal yardstick with an increased majority and another poll shows Labour doing the same in its marginal next door, Erdington.

In Cambridge, last month's over-pollled constituency, each of the candidates has been put in third place by one or other poll. In Cheltenham the Liberal has just been jumped from a 37 to 31 per cent lead into a 45 to 31 per cent vote.

Perhaps the biggest warning, and the one still to be taken, is that the national picture will not be uniformly reflected in every constituency. But until there is more solid evidence about the variations it may be subject to, it is safest to assume they will cancel out.

The author is a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford

Rumbustious Hailsham fights on

By Michael Binyon

The bicycling, bell-ringing gusto has mellowed, the explosive eccentricity of the 1960s curbed by 12 years on the woolsack.

But Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, fighting his fourteenth general election, is still a rumbustious campaigner, still pounding out the Conservative message in village halls, still wheezing and chortling at his old team that those who believed Labour economic policies were "stark staring bonkers".

Only a few months off 80, the Lord Chancellor is a powerful elder statesman, who holds the oldest and nominally highest office in the land.

A member of Parliament since 1932, with two spells in each House, he has served many masters in many jobs; his bulgy pin-stripe frame seems to exude wisdom, authority, continuity.

Indeed the long view is the central feature of his standard — very standard — election address.

He speaks of the two world wars. He remarks, in passing, that in 1963 he negotiated for the Macmillan Government

the partial test ban treaty with "the head boy of Russia, then Khrushchev".

He reminds people, with energetic loyalty concealing just a hint of disparagement, that Thatcherism is no new phenomenon. "I first heard the phrase 'property-owning democracy' on the lips of Anthony Eden at the party conference in 1946."

He sweeps across history to note in measured patronizing tones, that the "dear old slob" about the rich getting richer and the poor poorer was invented by Karl Marx in 1850. And then, with an old legal orator's tricks, he lets the populist pugilist in him burst out in sudden passionate pliosives, and rounds on Marx's socialism. It was a busted flush — "as dead as a do-dad and as untrue as the devil".

His very language has a ring of the archaic, the legal, the pre-war Eton and Oxford.

Looking at the rain-swept fields outside the village hall, he congratulates his audience on attending on "such a disagreeable evening." He talks about "motor cars", about Labour claims being "manifestly untrue", about a

European socialist Government which left office "amid universal execration".

In deepest Ulcombe, a tranquil village in the Garden of England, his words bring nods and grunts of approval from the elderly white moustaches in cavalry twills and the Barbara Woodhouse look-alikes who constitute the 58-strong Conservative rally.

Ninety minutes later in Northfleet, when less patently patrician accents suggest Conservatism of the newer Norman Tebbit kind, the Lord Chancellor is listened to with silent, deferential respect.

Lord Hailsham may be, wittingly or not, on the verge of retirement. But his grasp is as firm, his response as sharp as any younger candidate.

He too can reel off statistics: how many National Health Service beds added by the Government, how much investment in education, how many cars and telephones a family (echoes of Macmillan's "never had it so good"), how the Warsaw Pact and Nato compare in tanks, artillery, and other doomsday indicators. Apart from the understandable confusion of

Jaruzelski with an equally Polish-sounding name of Jarzawski, there was not a name mixed up, a statistic muffed.

He too can lapse into sarcastic slang and campaigning bombast. Conventional war was "not quite the picnic Mr Kinnoch seems to think".

It was no good having good education "if you're pushing up daisies" or a nice health service "when you're dead and buried".

The Opposition spoke "sanctimonious humbug". As for the Alliance, with its "mild dose of the Labour Party's fallacies", they wanted a hung parliament, a compromise worked out in smoke-filled rooms, a system like Italy's that gave a new government every nine months.

But the angry old man was, as always with Quintin Hogg, part bluff, part sincere emotion.

As they rose to their feet for the standing ovation at the end of his speech, he blinked and beamed with a shy awkwardness and implicit boasting grin that has made him a mainstay of the Tory campaign for longer than most voters remember.



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'A lot more to life than slickness'

Concluding our pre-election interviews with party leaders, Margaret Thatcher, talking yesterday to Robin Oakley, says that mere presentation cannot conceal the policies that Labour dare not reveal



Margaret Thatcher: "People are proud of our country and proud of its record in defence. They know we have stood alone, they know we stand for freedom"

On the leadership...

'I believe it happens to be an enormous strength to the leader of the Conservative Party that you can be challenged each and every year by the party'

to mid-term, when we've got some more things privatized. Then we'll see what would be the best division between departments. There is no point putting them together in a different way just for the sake of change.

You said once that you would have no time for internal arguments. Are you an autocrat with your Cabinet? We have the most vigorous arguments, that's the way we arrive at our decisions. Very vigorous arguments. I'm usually right in the middle of them.

Did you ever envisage an employment reaching the level it has? Under another Thatcher Government can we expect a very considerable fall in the jobless totals?

You are asking me to prophesy. We have never done that. We believe the unemployment figures will continue to fall in the coming months. We hope the world economy will expand - which would be a tremendous help, because then we could get a good share of it. We shall continue the policies which are now creating extra jobs and have unemployment falling. We have a bigger proportion of our people in work than any other European country, with the exception of Denmark.

What mistakes, if any, can you recall making in Government? I can never remember just at the time when you tackle me about this, and afterwards I can always remember some. There are always things one would do differently or better. Just the day before an election, you try not to say what you could have done better. You say what you have done well.

Do you think that Francis Pym's remark before the 1983 election that landslide majorities were not good for governments has been borne out by events, or do you want another?

It has enabled us to be very clear and decisive and to give a lead on many things which we could not otherwise have done. I hope and believe we shall win. I hope we win with a very good majority to hold international confidence in the future economy of our country and in Britain's reputation as a reliable ally and a trusted friend.

What are the biggest tasks outstanding if you are re-elected? First, one has to keep the growth going as far as one can. That depends not only on us but on the state of the world economy. That's why it was so vital to go to Venice. There are countries with enormous surpluses, and unless they change their ways it will mean the world economy slows down. Once you've got that, and strong defence, we have to go on to the next stage in our manifesto, which is to bring a wider choice to people in rented housing and, above all, to tackle education. While in some parts of the country it is splendid, in some authorities parents are very, very concerned about some of the strange things their children are taught which most of us say they shouldn't be taught at all. They are very distressed that they are not being taught the proper things that education is all about - their basic language, their basic numeracy, their basic science, knowing something about their country and its history, geography and something about the great treasures of the world.

That is specifically directed to people in the inner cities who somehow are trapped, paying heavily in rates and taxes for education their children are not receiving. Do you regret that your campaign has become negative, concentrating on "Don't let Labour ruin it" rather than promoting your ideas? We set out with a very, very positive approach. But we have been under virulent attack, sometimes quite false, about our record, and therefore we had to turn around and defend our record and to counter-attack. Sometimes the best defence is counter-attack by showing up what your opponents do.

Politics is about alternatives. As part of putting your own message across you simply must show up what is the alternative and how it would really be fundamentally at odds with everything which has been enterprising and built this country as a reliable ally. There has been much praise for Labour's campaign. What have you thought of it? I've been asked all the time: "But Mrs Thatcher, your campaign hasn't been as slick as Labour's." I think there is a lot more to life than slickness. I don't think it is a good reputation for a Prime Minister or Government to have, being slick. I'd far rather be sound, honest and frank where the money comes from, honest and frank about how jobs are created. It depends on a combined effort from Government and people. Slickness is not for Government. Presentation cannot conceal in our opponents the policies which they dare not reveal.

Why do you believe it is so important to "destroy" socialism? Because socialism is about more and more control by the Government over the lives of the people. It is about taking away more and more of the fruits of the efforts of the people, their wages and incomes, so that they can't provide for themselves and their families but the Government has to provide everything.

Socialism is about collective provision and the destruction of the role, importance, and dignity of the individual and his fundamental human right to do better for his children by his own efforts and to help his neighbour by his own efforts. The concept and collectivism is totally at odds with all that has made Britain great. Given your views on socialism, would you like the Alliance to emerge as the major opposition, even if that made life harder for the Conservatives? The Alliance is not a consis-

lent, homogenous party. When the SDP came out of the Labour Party they did not join the Liberal Party, they set up a separate party. There are enormous divisions of view within the SDP and fundamental divisions within the Liberal Party. They are not doing so well because it seems to people that they haven't got the momentum, the drive, the energy to go forward because they don't know what to do. When they've tried to thrash it out they cannot come to a clear decision. I don't think that is the way for the Government of a country like ours to be conducted.

We have gained tremendously by having a strong, decisive Government. We've had to be strong. We had to lead on stationing cruise missiles. It wasn't Germany that did. We had to do it first. Does it worry you when you are accused of being uncaring or when by-election voters talk of "that bloody woman"? Of course it does. I sometimes feel it would be better if I talked more and did less - but of course it wouldn't. We do a lot more and talk a lot less and that's the way I was taught from childhood. Beware of people who talk big, it's what you do that counts.

Do you still enjoy fighting elections? In retrospect, provided one wins and wins well, one will have enjoyed it. It's like asking me, do I enjoy Question Time

at the House of Commons? In retrospect I say I love it. It's like asking me, do I enjoy television broadcasting? In retrospect, sometimes yes, but in prospect I'm - one doesn't have nerves of steel, you know, one is frightened to death that you won't do as well for your cause as you should.

Frightened isn't quite the right word to use. You are very anxious to do the best for everything you believe in and worried that you might not do justice by your cause. Many have said it was a mistake for you to talk of going "on and on and on" with the implication you will lead your party into the next election too. Do you still hope to do that? There seems particular concern about lenient sentences. Will you try to do something about that if re-elected? It will be the third time I've come at it. We had it in a bill, I think in 1985, because I was determined to try to get an appeal to the Court of Appeal on the question of the lenient sentence so that they could have given a decision which would not have been retrospective but would have affected future cases. To my great disappointment that did not get through the House of Lords.

We put it in the Criminal Justice Bill but we weren't able to get the whole of that through and the Labour Party would not allow that clause to go through. We shall bring it back. I hope this time that or something like it will get through because I am very concerned that the way in which the law works has got to command the confidence of the people.

Is there a single issue on which the election has turned? Not a single issue. I think one of the two major issues is defence, because people are proud of our country and proud of its record in defence. They know we have stood alone, they know we stand for freedom, they know how much there is to lose. Then there is the general way the economy has been run. In spite of unemployment, I think people understand the reasons for that. They under-

stand that jobs are created by business and that government can only help. They know the economy is doing extremely well. You've only got to look at the shops that are booming. The biggest shopping centres are being built in the North. They know, although they won't always admit it, that there have been more resources put into the health service and into pensions and social security than ever before. They do know that someone has to make the money before it can be distributed. They are afraid of militancy. They know it is something that is not in tune with this country and they do know this Labour Party is different from any other we've ever had and, I think, somewhat suspect that the packaging is to conceal that very thing.

Will you be changing government departments? Will we get a new Department of Enterprise or Ministry of Science? Not at the moment. We'll have another look coming up

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way it was going - was to try to suggest that if I won I would resign very quickly and that people would not know who they were voting for. I felt bound to counter that by saying no, it is my wish to go on up to another election. "Ah, then, so you want a fourth term?" You are caught either way. I believe it happens to be an enormous strength to the leader of the Conservative Party that you can be challenged each and every year by the party. In this election, law and order has not been the automatic plus for the Government it used to be. Are you happy with your record in this field? I think it is an underlying plus

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1280

ACROSS: 1 Rationale (6), 4 Day nursery (6), 9 Shrink gradually (7), 10 Gym slip (5), 11 Squall city quarter (4), 12 Immoderate (7), 14 Italian clown (11), 18 Disbevelled (7), 19 Stuff (4), 22 Melancholy (5), 24 Supervise (7), 25 Northern frozen zone (6), 26 Network (6). DOWN: 1 Current style (4), 2 Test (5), 3 Handbook (4,5), 5 Deep groove (3), 6 Tell (7), 7 Exact (6), 8 Blessing (11), 11 Drink delicately (3), 13 Betrayal (9), 15 Undiscovered (7), 16 Elective resistance unit (3), 17 Plan expenditure (6), 20 Boon (5), 21 Working group (4), 23 Spoil (3). SOLUTION TO NO 1279: ACROSS: 1 Fish hawk, 5 Coir, 9 Scalpel, 10 Album, 11 Slick, 12 Lance, 13 Pumps, 15 Opera, 16 Churn, 18 Track, 20 Taboo, 21 Terrain, 23 Reek, 24 Unsteady. DOWN: 1 Fiscal, 2 Scavage, 3 Hip, 4 William Caxton, 6 Orbs, 7 Rumpus, 8 Backpack, 11 Sedation, 14 Mount Ida, 15 Oyster, 17 Nicety, 19 Able, 22 Rat.



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WORLD SUMMARY

Contra air drop supplies seized

Nueva Guinea, Nicaragua - The Sandinista Army has intercepted a Contra air supply drop, capturing large quantities of weapons and ammunition, according to military officials here (A Correspondent writes).

15 charged Threat to over poll Teamsters

Valletta - Fifteen supporters of Malta's ousted socialist government were released on bail yesterday after having been charged with "corrupt practices" during last month's general election (Austin Sammut writes).

Bavadra meets aide

The overthrown Prime Minister of Fiji, Dr Timoci Bavadra, discussed his country's political turmoil with the Queen's Private Secretary, Sir William Heseltine, at Buckingham Palace yesterday (Nicholas Beeston writes).

Democrat Hunt for dark horse 'Oriental'

Washington - Senator Joseph Biden, aged 44, the latest Democrat formally to announce his bid for the presidential nomination, has gained a popularity rating of no more than 3 per cent in recent polls among registered Democrats (Christopher Thomas writes).

Reagan train protest

Bonn - An attempt to sabotage a US Army train in West Berlin in protest against President Reagan's visit to the city tomorrow failed when the driver stopped short of a steel cable bearing three blazing car tyres over the track (John England writes).

Key questions still face Iran inquiry

With the first phase of the Iran-Contragate hearings now completed, the central question about the scandal has still to be answered: How much did President Reagan know about what was going on, and when did he know it?

Bacteria help to beat frost

Oakland, California (AFP) - Preliminary results show success in outdoor tests of a man-made bacteria designed to prevent the formation of frost on fruit. Advanced Genetic Sciences Inc reports.

World leaders leave mixed impressions behind them

The Venice economic summit broke up last night leaving three of the participating groups with different impressions. The leaders were satisfied, the American journalists disappointed, and the Venetians both proud and impatient.

Venice summit statements on political issues and Aids

Venice (AP) - The following is the official text of the summary on political issues read yesterday by the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Amintore Fanfani, chairman of the 13th annual economic summit here.

India plans huge relief package for Tamils

India wants to send 20,000 tons of food and supplies to Sri Lanka's northern capital of Jaffna and talks are being held between the two governments about ways of sending it, according to Mr A.C.S. Hammed, Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister.

Refugees 'caged' to prevent stonings

The 10,000 refugees at Deheish camp, just outside Bethlehem, are being caged. A close-mesh wire fence, over 16 ft high, is going up around the camp perimeter.

Pope's visit becomes rally for farmers of Solidarity

Addressing hundreds of thousands of cheering Polish farmers, the Pope yesterday pressed home his sharp criticism of communism, declaring Poland to be stuck in "an economic and moral crisis".



Two men in Polish regional costume listening to the Pope during the beatification at Tarnow yesterday of Karolina Kozka, a farm girl who resisted rape by a Russian soldier in 1914.

Russians seize 'spy laboratory' on goods train

Moscow (Reuter) - A freight container on the way from Japan to West Germany was seized in Moscow when it was found to hold an "espionage laboratory" humming and flashing a blue light, the government newspaper Izvestia said yesterday.

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activity sensors, cameras (hooked up to the ventilation ducts) which could shoot pictures of a broad panorama from the moving train, and other sophisticated spying devices.

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Erlich Pircher, a First Secretary at the Swiss Embassy, said he was being expelled for "activities incompatible with his status as a diplomat". The phrase is generally used to denote spying.

Swiss diplomats said they viewed the move as pure retaliation for Switzerland's expulsion last month of Mr Vladimir Khorochilov, a First Secretary at Moscow's Embassy in Bern, who was accused of economic and political espionage.

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Addressing hundreds of thousands of cheering Polish farmers, the Pope yesterday pressed home his sharp criticism of communism, declaring Poland to be stuck in "an economic and moral crisis".

The Venice economic summit broke up last night leaving three of the participating groups with different impressions. The leaders were satisfied, the American journalists disappointed, and the Venetians both proud and impatient.

**WE HAVE
MAINTAINED
BRITAIN'S
DEFENCES AND
BROUGHT
RUSSIA TO THE
NEGOTIATING
TABLE.**

**Labour would abolish our nuclear defence
without Russia giving up a single weapon.**

**BRITAIN IS SECURE. DON'T LET LABOUR WRECK IT.
VOTE CONSERVATIVE**

Police injured and 2,000 students detained during South Korean violence

Protests mar gala for Chun's successor

From David Watts, Seoul

Thousands of students were detained across South Korea last night when anti-government rallies turned to violence as President Chun named Mr Roh Tae Woo as his party's next presidential candidate.

In the early hours students were occupying a cathedral in central Seoul, surrounding themselves with burning barricades while riot police rained on a barrage of stones.

During the day a policeman was severely injured when a police detail ran out of tear gas and students attacked in force, severely beating the officers with stones.

There were other incidents across the rest of the country, including the hijacking of a train. The state radio said about 2,000 protesters were detained around the country.

Guests leaving the gala reception celebrating the naming of Mr Roh Tae Woo had to wipe their eyes as tear gas wafted across the hotel entrance.

The afternoon began with the glittering formal nomination of Mr Roh by a national convention of delegates of the Democratic Justice Party in a vast indoor stadium, complete with a pop singer and a comedian.

It ended with scattered street battles which left the centre of the capital largely deserted as police and students confronted each other with stones, firebombs and tear gas.

In at least one incident students initiated the violence by pelting riot police with stones. In others, students from Korea University, which is not normally regarded as militant, staged a sit-down demonstration singing hymns and anti-government songs.

Lacking one of the gas masks which are now de rigueur for Seoul political protests, The Times correspondent fashioned one out of a surgical mask, cotton and gauze. But even cotton daubed with toothpaste was insufficient to act as a barrier to the gas, which temporarily blinds and burns exposed surfaces.

The Government had ordered companies to get their workers home early in anticipation of the protest rally, but many were caught in the volleys of gas.

Mr Roh's endorsement by the convention was a foregone conclusion. There was no other candidate, and this close friend of the President had long been expected to step into his shoes. Of the 7,309 ballots cast at the convention, 7,260 were for Mr Roh.

With the endorsement of the outgoing President and the party, he is expected to win the presidential election at the end of the year, despite yesterday's clashes and a continuing series of statements expressing dissatisfaction.

Mr Roh, a more impressive speaker than President Chun, committed himself to a more democratic approach to government. "The current period of time strongly demands that democratic ideals, institutions and practices be firmly established," he said.

Mr Kim Young Sam, leader of the National Council for a Democratic Constitution, attempted to drive to the original focal point of last night's rally, the Anglican Cathedral, but was prevented from reaching the building by riot police.

In a speech he was to have made there, he accused the Government of maintaining its power through violence and falsities.

Whatever Mr Kim's sentiments, one popular song heard at the DJP convention seemed to point the way to the future under Mr Roh: "My Way".

President Chun proclaiming Mr Roh Tae Woo, left, as his party's next presidential candidate while, right, students with makeshift clubs confront police on the streets of Seoul.

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President Chun proclaiming Mr Roh Tae Woo, left, as his party's next presidential candidate while, right, students with makeshift clubs confront police on the streets of Seoul.



The Swire Group

Hawke ridicule for Liberal leader's pledge of tax cuts

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

The Australian election campaign started in earnest yesterday with jingles and slogans and a Liberal opposition pledge to cut taxes so substantially that the Hawke Government promptly dismissed it as impossible.

No Australian election campaign would be complete without jingles with macho male vocals and banal lyrics. In the current environment of economic crisis, Mr Bob Hawke and Labor are pinning their faith on a number called "Let's Stick Together", which had its premiere in Sydney and goes, in part:

"Australians have always been good at fighting back. With a little more strength and patience, we'll see Australia right."

The jingle comes from an advertising stable whose head, Mr John Singleton, colloquially known as "Singo", used to think Mr Hawke was a Communist, but who appears to have undergone a change of heart as a result of Labor's significant swing to the right and perhaps, too, a \$A 2.7 million (£1.2 million) fee.

The tone of the Liberal campaign launch yesterday was more serious, but then Mr John Howard, the Opposition leader, is trailing Mr Hawke by between 8 and 12 percentage points and earnestness is more appropriate in his camp.

The Liberal slogan, "Get In Front Again", was unveiled with Mr Howard's tax policy, which he said would reduce the average wage-earner's weekly contributions by \$A 26 (£11) and curv \$A 7.8 billion from the nation's tax bill over three years.

The Liberal leader - whose performance as Treasurer in the Fraser Government is cited by his critics as good reason to beware this new economic prescription - said the cuts would be funded from reductions in welfare and health payments, and in allocations to the states. Four entire government departments would be abolished, assets would be sold off and a number of federal programmes delayed. This, Mr Howard said, was what was necessary to stimulate investment and create incentives for individual effort to make Australia great again.

In a campaign of lacklustre personalities, the tax question is likely to prove the key issue. Mr Howard said the Liberals would reduce the top tax rate and business tax to 38 per cent. The standard tax level would be 25 per cent. Capital gains tax and the controversial fringe benefits tax would be abolished.

Mr Paul Keating, the Treasurer in the Hawke Government, said the policy would add between \$A 8 billion and \$A 10 billion to the budget deficit and destroy slowly reviving international confidence in the economy.

With a touch of typically dark imagery, Mr Keating commented: "Those who sup from Howard's tax cup will be poisoned by it."

Botha's emergency to stay

Blacks resigned to long-haul struggle

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

President Botha's decision yesterday to extend South Africa's state of emergency, which expires at midnight tonight, comes as no great surprise to anyone.

Briefing foreign reporters a few days ago, Mr Adrian Vlok, the Minister of Law and Order, claimed that violent incidents had declined by 70 per cent since last June, but added that the "revolutionary climate" in the country was still too high to permit the lifting of the state of emergency.

Mrs Helen Suzman, spokesman on law and order for the liberal Progressive Federal Party, said yesterday: "It is my guess that a state of emergency will from now on be more or less a permanent feature of our lives."

Under the Public Safety Act, the law which gives President Botha the power to declare an emergency, any new emergency proclamation must be tabled in the tricameral Parliament within 14 days.

It is a measure of the new mood of "long-haul" realism among black opposition groups, which only a year ago were talking as if the collapse of white rule was imminent, that protests planned to mark the first year of the emergency and the 15th anniversary of the start of the Soweto uprising on June 16 1976 are distinctly modest in scale.

Both the United Democratic Front anti-apartheid organization and its trade union arm, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu), this week made a point of denying that they had instructed their supporters to observe a five-day "stayaway" from work.

Cosatu has limited itself to a call to its estimated 700,000 members to observe June 16 as a "national holiday" to commemorate the students who have died in education struggles and to honour the youth who are striving to build themselves a real future in a non-racial democratic society free of unemployment, exploitation and apartheid education.

Announcing our new Sunday non-stop flight to Hong Kong.

For those who would rather you spent the weekend at home.



From Sunday 5th July, Cathay Pacific will have three non-stop flights from London to Hong Kong every weekend.

6pm on Sunday, 6pm on Saturday, for those who need to get there earlier. And 6pm on Friday, for those who can't wait to get away. So you can choose where to spend the weekend, confident that you'll arrive in better shape at the other end.

For full details of our daily flights from London to Hong Kong and our comprehensive network, see your travel agent or call us on 01-930 7878.

Arrive in better shape CATHAY PACIFIC

Rethink on Delphi factory site

From A Correspondent Athens

Yielding to pressure from international environmental groups, the Greek Government has abandoned a controversial plan to locate a £200 million Soviet-built aluminium plant near the ancient ruins of Delphi.

A last-minute change of site was announced yesterday by Mr Costas Sofoulis, governor of the state-owned Industrial Development Bank (ETVA), five days before work was to start at Ayia Evfimia, seven miles west of Delphi.

Clinging fears that sulphur dioxide emissions from the plant would damage the 2,500-year-old ruins, Mr Sofoulis said the new site would be at Domvraia, 30 miles to the east on the north coast of the Gulf of Corinth.

Sea escape by accused Briton

From A Correspondent Athens

Athens - Mr Alan Wild, aged 25, from Filey, Yorkshire, jumped overboard from a crowded inter-island steamer yesterday while being escorted by police to Rhodes accused of smuggling video equipment into Greece.

He was thought to be swimming for the island of Simi near the Turkish coast.

New leaders Copenhagen (AP) - Greenland's legislature has endorsed the new left-wing coalition Government under Mr Jonathan Motzfeldt.

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liberal leader
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**Every Labour Government since the war
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THE TIMES DIARY

Right, roll on '92

Now we know the Prime Minister has predicted that she will run for a longer term before calling the next election...

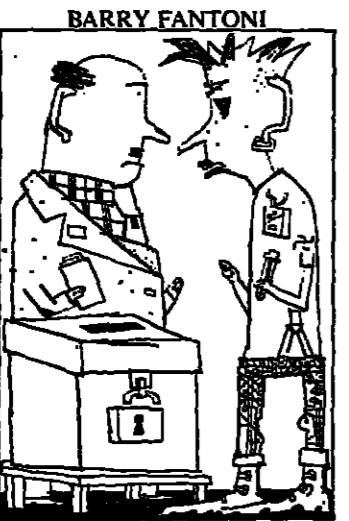
Ghosting

Polling station officials in marginal Twickenham will be keeping a watch today to prevent six 19th century American presidents from casting their votes...

Could the fact that today is St Barnabas day influence the undecided voter? The first century Egyptian saint is remembered for telling his land to divide among the needy.

Nancy's notes

Trangate seems to have been plagued by the distinctly short memories of those involved. But sympathizers with Colonel Oliver North's 27-year-old secretary Fawn Hall...



Departure

After all the polls, tonight watch the ones that really matter: the exit polls whose results the BBC and ITN will announce at 10 pm to save us sitting through their results programmes...

Thin blue lines

I must commend the eagle-eyed ticket seller at Victoria station spotting instantly that a £5 note proffered by my colleague Michael Binyon was a fake...

PHS

Some months ago The Times concluded that Mrs Thatcher had won the punk vote. It was, to be fair, a whimsical piece, intended to entertain...

Every age has its minorities, its outcasts, and its no-hopers; but perhaps ours is remarkable for their sheer number and variety...

Now he and the punk are anecdotal evidence, and hardly representative. It would be ludicrous to think that the Tories can expect great support from any coalition of the dispossessed...

So a party of the left may not easily enlist the discouraged, the fearful, the grudging, the angry or the lonely. There need be no association between the left and the left-behind...

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Underdogs who refuse to be chained

by Matthew Parris

to Scotland. Had that turned her against the Tory government? "I'm so fed up I won't vote!" And she was, she explained, normally a Labour voter...

Ken Livingstone tried the hard-earned. He saw himself, I think, as a kindly piper fluting forward a motley throng: rags fluttering in the breeze and wheelchairs squeaking...

The point is, though, that it failed. Voting surveys showed that Ken did not get the gays - and Neil got the flak...

Racial minorities, too, are becoming harder to enlist. A recent poll carried out for the Hansib group of newspapers shows that the former overwhelming Afro-Asian support for Labour is slipping steadily...

Meanwhile, an elderly lady tells me she is not voting Labour (or at all) for the first time in her life - because its candidate has an Asian name, and the council has not evicted the gypsies...

Less exotic but far more numerous is the biggest 'minority' of all. The very poor, the long-term unemployed, the lowest paid...

I wonder, Labour asks, if not for their enthusiasm, then at least for their quiet support; for Labour is best placed to voice for them some kind of orderly dissent from the values of a free market in whose rewards these people are not sharing...

Among society's losers the voice of dissent is louder than the voice of dissent. It is a bitter, confused voice. Huge numbers of them simply don't vote. But of those that do, though many vote Labour, there is a group which, amazingly, does not: it is represented by the complete outcast, deadbeat, or broken head, who

tells you he is going to vote for Mrs Thatcher.

For heaven's sake why? One can only guess. Justifiably or not, the Conservative Party is speaking with terrific moral and intellectual certainty, and a raw sense of power...

Now some may find that irritating, but if your life is haunted by insecurity, there can be a hunger for certainties, even when these promise no practical relief. An opposition party out of power for nearly a decade, itself a broad coalition of differing philosophies...

If Labour does not win this election there will still be relief at having held together better than many predicted, and gratitude to a leader who has brilliantly rallied it through. But there will also be a sense of incredulity that so many people in Britain today do not yet feel so secure as to welcome an appeal - over their heads - to the losers.

I believe that it never would. The arithmetic and the psychology of the 1980s suggest that you cannot any longer found a majority party upon the votes of the losers in society. You may intend to help them once you get in - but you cannot expect them, or your message to them, to be what puts you in. Only the winners can do that. Optimism, not grievance, has to be your foundation.

The Red Rose, the Brahms, and all that is positive that has gone with them, were a very good start. Whether it is enough we shall have to see.

The author is presenter of LWT's Weekend World.

Edward Norman challenges the Bishop of Durham's view of politics

When cross and X collide

Are we to understand by the calls made by senior churchmen - by the Bishop of Durham in this paper, for instance - and by local church groups throughout the country, that Christians should give a moral direction to the election campaign by requiring moral explanations of their policies from politicians?

Do they suppose that it is still the duty of the state to identify and protect Christian morality with the full armour of the law, as once their predecessors did? Presumably not; their own very proper adhesion to the ideals of a plural society - to minimizing the area of the state's competence to decide the moral choices of the people - would scarcely dwell easily with such a strategy.

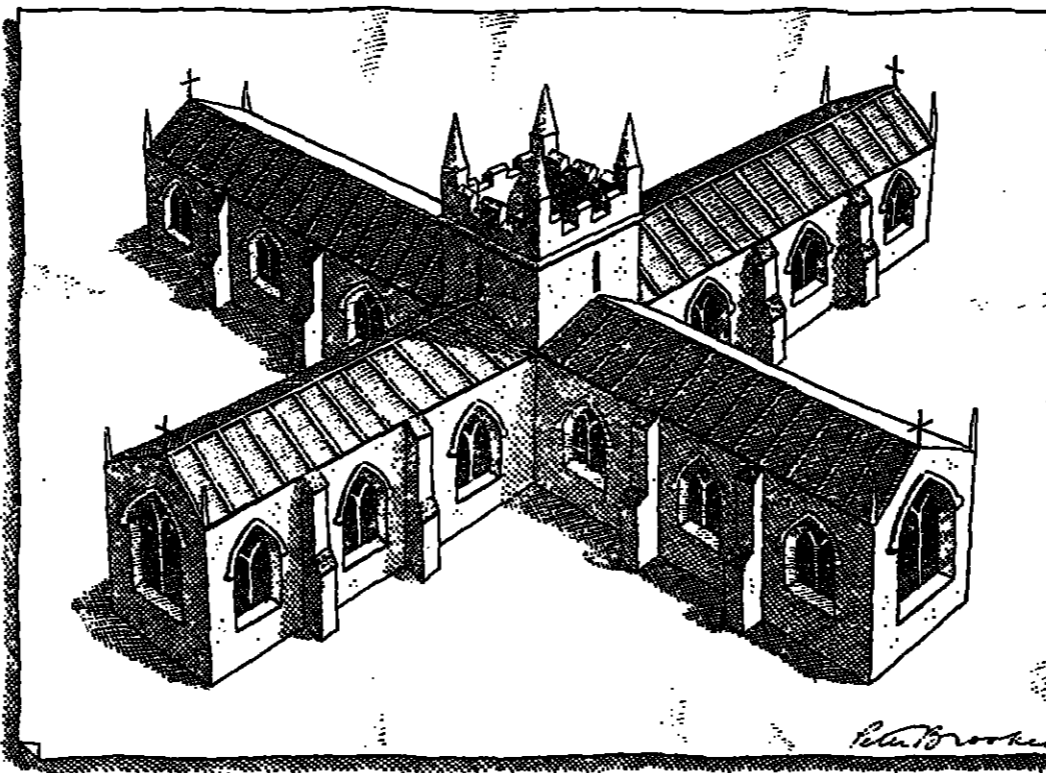
Contemporary Christians, anyway, have not shown enormous facility in deciding the moral teachings of their own creed. Do they, on the other hand, suppose that there are recognizable areas of moral agreement, where all men "of goodwill" can acknowledge certain basic justices, some human needs, as so obvious as to transcend the complications of applied modern liberalism?

If so, they are doubtless on surer ground. But how do they, or we, determine the list of these agreed moral truths - to be toiled up, perhaps, like the contents of a human rights agenda? In practice the politicians of all parties have themselves helped to resolve at least a part of the difficulty. For the election campaign, despite the moral cladding, has mostly been about very material things indeed.

This is all exactly as it should be. Once the state has lost its capacity to exercise a function as the teacher and enforcer of moral truths then it will be found to be concerned with the lower ground of material distribution, and it is only human to expect public men to represent their necessary materialism in the language of ultimate principle.

But where do the bishops come in? If the debate is about the practical means of determining economic and social adjustments it is surely conducted in a technical dimension where the insights of Christianity do not have any particularly distinctive contributions to make.

Of course the conditions in which we find ourselves in the Western world - of the liberal state whose recognition of value diversity requires a resignation from ultimate moral claims for many of its own functions - is, historically, an unusual one. It allows greater freedom to its



citizens than has been normal in the experience of the world, but it is a fragile and unstable condition, ready, if not given conscious protection, to fall prey to the roaming political ideologies, each one established on clear moral principles (however disagreeable or wrong those principles may seem to the Western mind).

It only works, furthermore, where the leading political parties are in basic agreement about its essential operations; where there is a consensus to uphold the liberal democracy itself. That is why, in this election campaign, the Labour Party has been at such pains to establish - on valid historical grounds, it must be said - that it is not to be mistaken for some of the fringes which have attached themselves, and which are certainly outside the consensus.

For where the liberal state breaks down, the luxury of reducing the moral capacity of the state in order to preserve the moral diversity of the citizen disappears. Then it is necessary for the state to involve itself in the most immediate moral choices available to society, and then freedom, as we presently seek to preserve it, is near to its demise.

It is one of the paradoxes of 20th century totalitarianism that its components have often been assembled for laudable and morally desirable reasons. All forms of collectivism, in fact, derive from a

desire to add to the machinery of the state in order to do good: to arrange national resources so that benefit goes to the sick, the old or the unemployed.

In the careful balance of collectiveness and individualism which describes Western societies there are plenty of grounds for internal disagreement - witness the present political party disputes - but they are all still shouting in the same room.

It is unhappily very easy for collectivism to slide into totalitarianism, however, and to open the door to a whole mansion of dangers. Those who call for extensions of the area of the state's concern in matters of social benefit are in reality calling for an extension of its power.

The first danger here is one of false expectations. Most of the things which afflict humans and cause their unhappiness are not susceptible to political solution at all - disjointed personal relations, chronic illness, frustrated ambition, loneliness, and so forth: the very things, indeed, in which Christianity does have expertise and can offer pastoral consolation.

The problem with excess collectivism is that it cultivates an atmosphere in which the public realm will somehow always be seen as a benevolent cure for all human ills. But human life is full of risks and hazards: the state's capacity to shield us from them is

not always effective or desirable. Furthermore, a population which looks to the state for every kind of protection in life is one that in the end will make its own society unworkable, for no government can deliver the goods they demand.

The other great danger of advanced collectivism is suggested by the moral economy of liberal democracy. Such collectivism is quite simply, a step to the worst sort of autocracy - the control of thought itself by the state - when too many powers, in a context of raised expectations, are heaped upon the government of a plural society.

The powers stack up as the moral coherence of the state diminishes. This may appear harmless enough in the Britain of the late 20th century, but all government is less substantial than it seems, and there is really no way of knowing how things may look in a couple of decades.

To create a machinery of control over people's lives, even for ostensibly benevolent purposes, is to bring into existence a structure which can at any time be taken over intact by a fully articulated and tight moral system, promoted for political purposes which may be very hostile to liberal freedom as presently understood.

The author is Dean of Peterhouse, Cambridge.

China: better red than better-read

examiners feared what might happen to them if they were failed, as they deserved. The result was a significant drop in academic standards and a generation of inept and poorly educated officials.

Their resentment at being overtaken by younger, better educated officials recruited from the post-Cultural Revolution university intake may be one reason for the change in priorities.

The ideological requirement is accompanied in the new regulations by another echo of the Cultural Revolution: that schoolchildren and university students should engage in manual labour. In the late 1960s and early '70s all pupils took part in some form of manual work. After school, no one was admitted to university without spending some time working either in a factory or in the countryside.

economic benefit, but the main thinking behind it was political and psychological: to inspire in them respect for the dignity of manual work and so help narrow the wide and centuries-old gulf between brain and brawn.

Mao Tse-tung tried to eradicate some of these acute social divisions but his measures were negated after his death by the official and public reaction to the Cultural Revolution.

Today's students constitute a tiny elite: only two million out of a population of more than a billion. Its members are guaranteed good jobs; the very best have some say in their future careers. Some (until now a rapidly increasing number) have the opportunity to study abroad. In future, however, scholarships to study abroad are likely to go to those unambiguously in their support for Chinese socialism, not necessarily to those whose high academic standards and dedication have brought them

such an enviable reputation in the West.

The long-term effects for China if - as precedent suggests - the new policy is taken further, are likely to be negative. The intelligent, original and questioning student who shows less than total obedience to the cause of socialism will give way to the conformist. The intellectual freedom that had begun to develop will be dulled and China will stagnate. Its aspiration to be a great power in its level of development rather than by numbers alone is likely to be frustrated.

Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai were both dazzlingly radical thinkers in their time. Deng Xiaoping still is. But memories of the power that derives from brave and radical thinking may terrify some sections of the present Chinese leadership. It would be a high price for China to pay if the calls of Chinese students for greater democracy - a concept of which they have barely an inkling - rebound as thoroughly as now seems likely.

The author is on the staff of the RRC Far Eastern Service.

Ronald Butt

Camouflage and concealment

Whatever verdict is delivered today, the 1987 general election will have been the most extraordinary of any that I can remember. If Mrs Thatcher wins, it will be a triumph of a nation's political maturity and insight over a quite exceptionally skilful and insidious campaign of political deception by her opponents. It will owe little to the skill of the Conservatives' presentation of their own cause.

If she were to lose her majority, the art of the soft sell would have confounded the clearly established historic trend away from socialism. It is hard to believe that the spirit of democracy will be frustrated in aid of a minority's creed. Nevertheless, anyone who acknowledges the reality of the advertisers' influence and the scope for manipulating public sentiment by film, sound and selection must hold his breath after the professionalisation of Labour's sales techniques.

Elections are occasions for hard knocks and unfairness, for trick questions and answers. By this adversarial alchemy the voters gain the understanding which informs their decision, and the outcome of an election almost invariably appears as a kind of historical inevitability. I cannot think of a single election since 1945 of which this was not true.

The 1945 election was itself an outstanding instance. There was a deep conviction in people of all classes and parties that there could be no simple return to the prewar social conditions which had left far too many people in need and lacking protection for their basic needs. That is why the Churchill coalition commissioned the Beveridge Report. But the Conservatives were too associated with the past for people to believe that they had any real enthusiasm for the necessary change, and so the Attlee government came in, not because the electorate was convinced by the doctrine of socialism but to improve the condition of the people.

It went out because the people disliked control and nationalization, and in 1951 the Conservatives returned to free the nation from control. They also built on the welfare state they had inherited, though they would themselves have constructed it in a different form.

In the 1960s the economy went wrong and the first Wilson government came in on a social democratic programme of planned growth. This was a response to the climate of the time (the Tories themselves had tried some planning) and Labour's victory had a smack of inevitability. But it was destroyed by the non-cooperation of the trades unions, as was the Heath government of 1970. Labour went sharply to the left, the old consensus was broken and Mrs Thatcher was elected twice because it was now clear that socialism sat ill with a free society.

The nation has been turned in a new direction. Yet the power of Mrs Thatcher to do this has come not principally from herself but because she has been working with the intellectual grain of the times. A society of free owners in a free market but accepting strong social obligations is what people want. But they are also worried about the transitional unemployment and the present inadequate standard of the social services. Mr Kinnock's powerful and deceptive rhetoric has therefore struck a chord with the public.

Every effort too has been made to disguise the detailed reality of Labour's economic and trade union proposals. In all essentials the electorate sees the Conservatives as the party they are and Mrs Thatcher as the person she is. By means of Mr Kinnock's volatile, sentimentality Labour has tried to persuade the voters to see it other than it really is - a party working against the historic grain. I doubt whether the electorate's ability to understand what they are being offered has ever been more severely tested.

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Mrs Thatcher's mistake - and that of the Tories generally - is that that they have been so busy defending their record that they have never found the words to show they acknowledge and understand people's wish to have these things put right. This has given Labour a chance to unleash a campaign of personal hatred against Mrs Thatcher as hard-faced and to claim compassion as a private weapon.

Yet even this would have done them little good if the public really saw the party as it now is. Labour's election campaign has therefore been an exercise in camouflage to hide the leftist extremism which now characterizes the active party majority. A glossy presentation of Mr Kinnock has been used to conceal the harsh creed with which most Labour MPs will go into the new parliament and the authority urge many of them have already brought to local government. Eyes have been diverted from their contempt for the traditional values of family life by the public presentation of Kinnock the family man.

But what has most characterized Labour's campaign is that it has been devoted to concealing the true implications of policy. At every other election the Labour party had its wars and their nature proudly on display, especially in 1945 and 1964 when deep conviction in people of all classes and parties that there could be no simple return to the prewar social conditions which had left far too many people in need and lacking protection for their basic needs. That is why the Churchill coalition commissioned the Beveridge Report. But the Conservatives were too associated with the past for people to believe that they had any real enthusiasm for the necessary change, and so the Attlee government came in, not because the electorate was convinced by the doctrine of socialism but to improve the condition of the people.

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In the 1960s the economy went wrong and the first Wilson government came in on a social democratic programme of planned growth. This was a response to the climate of the time (the Tories themselves had tried some planning) and Labour's victory had a smack of inevitability. But it was destroyed by the non-cooperation of the trades unions, as was the Heath government of 1970. Labour went sharply to the left, the old consensus was broken and Mrs Thatcher was elected twice because it was now clear that socialism sat ill with a free society.

The nation has been turned in a new direction. Yet the power of Mrs Thatcher to do this has come not principally from herself but because she has been working with the intellectual grain of the times. A society of free owners in a free market but accepting strong social obligations is what people want. But they are also worried about the transitional unemployment and the present inadequate standard of the social services. Mr Kinnock's powerful and deceptive rhetoric has therefore struck a chord with the public.

Every effort too has been made to disguise the detailed reality of Labour's economic and trade union proposals. In all essentials the electorate sees the Conservatives as the party they are and Mrs Thatcher as the person she is. By means of Mr Kinnock's volatile, sentimentality Labour has tried to persuade the voters to see it other than it really is - a party working against the historic grain. I doubt whether the electorate's ability to understand what they are being offered has ever been more severely tested.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

VOTING FOR FREEDOM

The freedom to vote is one of many freedoms which, when taken together, make up a free country.

They include the freedom of the worker to sell his labour at an agreed price, not one dictated by union or Government; of the employer to offer work to the workers of his choice; of the worker to go into his work place unhindered by pickets; of parents to spend their money on educating their children as they wish; of patients to be treated by the doctor of their choice.

Those freedoms were being eroded in 1979 when Mrs Thatcher and the Conservatives took office. Some had been all but abolished. The pre-entry closed shop, and the legal immunities enjoyed by unions, meant that many people could not employ - or be employed by - whom they chose.

These limitations on freedom did not all create outrage in this country at that time. Those who were in the habit of protesting at that time tended to be more worried about limitations on sexual freedom, or about legal censorship of books. To those with such concerns, the freedom to buy education or insure against sickness was seen as unacceptable - almost impolitic.

In reality, the hindering of private education and health has nothing to do with freedom. It is to do with a certain idea of equality. There are societies which put freedom at the top of their priorities and societies which prefer "equality".

Nor would an "equal" society be equal. It could not get rid of the biggest inequality of all: that between rulers and ruled.

Yet moderate socialists from Tawney via Crossland to the less fastidious Mr Hattersley (in a recent book) have tried to prove that there can be no freedom without what they think is equality. All manner of tricks and devices have been devised by those writers to mock or minimize freedom which is not egalitarian.

"Freedom to dine at the Ritz", Tawney famously called it. He flourished a few decades before workers in the 1980s began to use their growing incomes, not usually to dine at the Ritz, but to secure a better education for their children or to go on holiday to Florida.

In choosing between the Conservatives and Labour in the booths today, the voters continue to have a choice between freedom and an enforced egalitarianism which imposes what politicians think people should have. The Labour promises are simply to provide what will buy the support of some voters at the expense of other voters. Only when people are free to decide for themselves are they truly equal with one another - and more equal in respect of their political masters.

By 1979 a force was emerging in Britain, made up of millions of people, which had a vested interest in more economic freedom. In matching the party to the rising power, Mrs Thatcher was in a Conservative tradition.

Peel realized that Conservatism's future lay not with the landed interest but with the newly-enfranchised, early 19th Century middle class. Disraeli realized that it lay with the late-19th Century, newly-enfranchised working class. Mrs Thatcher realized that it lay with the late 20th century "classless" class of skilled workers who had long been enfranchised in terms of the vote in elections, but who were trying to enfranchise themselves economically.

CHILDREN OF THE BERLIN WALL

Celebrating the 750th anniversary of one city - Berlin - which has for the past quarter century been two was always going to be risky. The original hope might have been that joint celebrations would somehow ease the permanent tension in which the city lives.

The first week of May saw street disturbances in a rundown quarter of West Berlin which were comparable in their ferocity to the Brixton and Tottenham riots, and attributed in part to social frictions made worse by the show of wealth mounted only streets away for the anniversary.

This week has seen three successive nights of violence in East Berlin. The disturbances were the worst, according to eye-witnesses, for more than 10 years. Several dozen young East Germans were arrested and a number of Western correspondents beaten. Diplomatic protests have started to fly between Bonn and East Berlin.

The immediate cause of the trouble was a series of open-air rock concerts held in front of the Reichstag in West Berlin within hearing of the East. As more than 3,000 East Berliners gathered in Unter den Linden - the historic boulevard from where the bright lights and brilliant colours of the West seem so near - enthusiasm for Western rock music gave way to political frustration. Young people of East Berlin - most of them too young to remember that Berlin was ever one, unoccupied, city - shouted "Long live freedom and democracy" and "Away with the wall".

The scene was charged with history. When the wall was built, 26 years ago this August, thousands of young people who found themselves on the western side tried to storm it. Shouting "Away with Ullrich!" (then East German leader), "Away with the wall", they were dispersed by their own police who used

What is the evidence? It is impossible to say for sure what are the tastes and aspirations of millions of people. But guides are offered by such signs as the increase over the last eight years in private health and education, by the purchase of council houses, by the vast numbers wanting to buy shares in the privatized, formerly State-owned industries, and perhaps above all by the Labour politicians' terror - in this campaign - of appearing to be the party of high taxation, the unions, and nationalization.

From all that, it can be deduced that the new masses want to emancipate themselves from among other forces the Inland Revenue, inflation, union officials, town halls and the poor services provided by the state in the name of equality.

This great act of economic enfranchisement will take longer than eight years. In the eye of history, it has only just begun. The Conservative Government has fought against great odds to rescue the country from its post-war decline. It inherited an economy in which inflation was endemic. No such inflation has ever been cured anywhere without high unemployment.

Shortly after taking office in 1979, some of its actions - such as increases in VAT - made inflation worse before it got better. Because of the political necessity still to maintain the welfare state, overall taxation has actually gone up - though not by as much as it would have done under Labour or would do so under Labour again. Now that the inflation has been brought under reasonable control, there are still bad national habits which are prolonging unemployment.

They include rent controls which prevent people moving from areas of high unemployment because they cannot find rented accommodation elsewhere; wage-fixing which prices workers out of jobs; a social security system which lessens the incentive to work. The Government has not done much about them because to do so would involve still more controversy, pain and unpopularity and no government can fight on many fronts at the same time. But those are the kind of fights which the Government is going to have to wage in the future.

As for spending on health - the issue which has caused the Government most trouble in this campaign - the Conservatives will have to come to terms with the reality that Labour will always be able to outbid them by promising more. The Tories can only respond by ensuring the prosperity which alone can pay for the health service, and by encouraging private provision. The latter can best be achieved, in the medium term, by keeping taxes low enough for people to afford to insure themselves against sickness.

There is one other way in which these last eight years have been an attempt to escape the legacy of 1945-79. Mrs Thatcher has tried to restore to general acceptance the idea that people are responsible for their own actions.

During the strikes of 1978-79, Labour left-wingers said that the Government - because it was not meeting the workers' pay claim - was to blame for the harm done to the sick by striking hospital workers.

When one of those left-wingers - Mr Kinnoch - became leader of the Opposition, he adopted the same attitude towards violence during the miners' strike. Likewise, the Labour Party denies that unemployment can be caused or worsened by people pricing themselves out of jobs.

Socialism thereby tries to separate actions from their consequences and robs the individual of free will. That is not the least of the notions which has made Mrs Thatcher's already immense task more difficult. All the more reason why she should be allowed to continue it.

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CHILDREN OF THE BERLIN WALL

tear gas and truncheons to enforce the division of their city. This week the same techniques were used in the eastern sector: the same slogans were shouted - with one difference. The name of Mr Gorbachov was invoked - as if he, rather than East German or Western leaders, offered hope.

Some may argue that the decision by West Berlin to allow open-air rock concerts, that ritual of the West's youth culture so coveted in the East, was provocative. They will argue that if such concerts were to be incorporated into the anniversary celebrations at all, they should have been held away from the wall, not within earshot of the East.

Although this argument has some justification, the concerts were televised and East Germans, since their government bowed to the realities of modern communications, have been able to view Western television for many years. Berlin has been a showcase for two political philosophies and two ways of life ever since it was divided.

The visits by Western leaders to Berlin this month and last - President Reagan arrives tomorrow - will be matched by high-level East European and Soviet visits in the autumn. All that will be missing is contact between them. The one visit of real political significance - by the East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker, to West Berlin - will not take place. It has been prevented by the East-West argument about the status of Berlin. The West continues to maintain that Berlin is one, occupied, city; the fourth occupying power - the Soviet Union - regards East Berlin as part of East Germany. For the Soviet Union, the wall made this separation final.

If this week's disturbances in East Berlin show anything, it is that those who have grown up in the shadow of the wall, for whom the wall has been a fact of life, have not been reconciled to the division. The years have not dulled their sense that Berlin is still in spirit what it has been for most of its 750 year history: one city.

Deciphering the Dead Sea Scrolls

From Professor Edward Ullendorff, FRS. Sir, From the day the first Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered, in 1947, controversy and sensationalism have accompanied their decipherment (or lack thereof). While scholarly debate is to be welcomed, the sensationalism, recently revived in the media and documented in your article (June 6), must be deplored as being inimical to the best interest of scholarship and, indeed, to truth.

I do not believe that the allegations of "intrigue and jealousy" or references to "the academic scandal of the century" are well founded. To describe the members of the team as "geniuses" must appear very strange to those who have studied their work - or in many cases have observed their failure to advance the subject by publication of the material entrusted to them some 30 odd years ago.

The conspiracy theories or charges of concealment for fear of undermining the claims of Christianity should not find an echo in serious journals or scholarly debate.

I share Dr Vermees' view that there is nothing more sinister about these delays than a "lack of management" - and indeed

Investment in tomorrow's science

From Professor T.W.B. Kibble, FRS. Sir, Terence Kealey's logic (article, June 5) escapes me. "University science funding becomes an investment only if every other link in the chain is healthy: if industrial applied science thrives, industry is well managed..." Yes indeed, but that is an argument for looking to those other links, not for cutting back on what we do well.

Of course science budgets cannot grow without limit, but we are still investing less in civil science than most of our competitors. The relevant output of such investment is not Nobel prizes but people.

If we are to compete in an increasingly science-based world we shall need far more people who know what fundamental science is all about, who can recognize and exploit the significant advances when they come. That is not all we shall need, but it is an essential ingredient. Other developed countries have recognized this, and are rapidly expanding their science base.

University funding certainly needs reform: it is right to demand improved efficiency. What is alarming is the current passion for tearing the system apart and starting afresh. Violent revolution is no doubt exhilarating to those in

Investment in tomorrow's science

the vanguard, but it is seldom a way of promoting efficiency. The proposal to remove research funding from the University Grants Committee and channel it through research councils is especially misguided. When funds are tight, grants committees always play safe: they fund those with established reputations to continue their successful work. To start really new lines of work, funds controlled by the universities themselves are vital.

Moreover we need more diversity of funding sources, not less. To channel all our funds through one agency is dangerous. It gives excessive weight to the prejudices of one small group - a group that at the higher levels is often out of touch and of date. This proposal is a recipe for stifling yesterday's science and funding the science of tomorrow.

Yours faithfully, TOM KIBBLE, Imperial College of Science and Technology, Department of Theoretical Physics, The Blackett Laboratory, Prince Consort Road, SW7, June 6.

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Points to ponder

From Mr Robin Jenks. Sir, The General Secretary of the Fabian Society (June 5) casts doubt on Lord Young's figure for job losses caused by all-out sanctions against South Africa, and suggests that this makes the other figures for job destruction suspect.

One figure that I believe cannot be questioned is the 600,000 who will lose their jobs as a result of legislation on a minimum wage. The National Executive Committee of the Labour Party set out their plans for this at Blackpool in October, 1986.

They would like the national minimum to be two thirds of the national average but settle for £80 a week - half the average wage. But even this would, they say, "represent a very substantial rise" for three million workers. Moreover "it is neither likely nor desirable that those just above the minimum receive no additional increase."

And differentials would have to be maintained. In this way the "very substantial rise" will be for everybody with a job. On this basis the 600,000 represent 2 1/2 per cent of the total workforce who would have to lose their jobs to pay for the increase. But what union has ever suggested that 2 1/2 per cent is a substantial rise?

In America, Professor Walter Williams has shown conclusively that minimum wage laws lead to an increase in unemployment especially among young disadvantaged workers with few educational qualifications. And many of them are black. If there is any reason why the same thing should not happen in our own country, the Labour Party should tell us what it is. Yours faithfully, ROBIN JENKS, 26 Alderbrook Road, SW12.

From Mr Colin Colebrook. Sir, In his outburst against tactical voting in your columns today (June 9) Mr Eddy Shah seeks more honesty in the election campaign. Let us then give an honest plain English description to the views expressed in his letter - sour grapes.

The "number of journalists" he refers to in scathing terms as advocating tactical voting are of course principally those on the *Today* newspaper which has come out strongly in favour of tactical voting in those marginal seats where it is the best way for supporters of the opposition parties to beat the Conservative candidate. Thus we see it is primarily Mr Shah's anger and frustration at no longer being in charge of *Today* that have prompted his letter.

By standing out against tactical

The Ward trial

From Mr Gilbert J. Kelland. Sir, Lord Denning, in his letter of June 3, strongly attacks the libelling of the dead. He particularly deplores the attack on the honour of Sir Archie Pellow Marshall, the judge in the 1963 trial of Stephen Ward, in the book *An Affair of State*.

The integrity of a distinguished former Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, Sir Joseph Simpson, and that of Superintendent Herbert, both of whom died whilst still serving, is even more seriously impugned in this book by the claim that they conspired with the Home Secretary at the time, Henry Brooke, to "frame" Ward and bring "totally bogus police charges" against him.

During the autumn of 1959, as a chief inspector at Notting Hill, I carried out an in-depth investigation into possible offences under the Sexual Offences Act by the notorious slum landlord, Perac Rachman, who was a social acquaintance of Stephen Ward and the provider of a flat at Bryanston Mews for Christine Keeler. The investigation did not provide sufficient evidence to justify proceedings, no hint or suggestion from any quarter was ever made that he should be "framed".

From 1961-65, as a superintendent in the West End, much of my duty concerned vice inquiries, including some to assist with Lord Denning's inquiry. In November, 1963, on the direction of the Commissioner, I escorted Henry Brooke on a night tour of the West End as he wished to see something of the conditions at first hand.

During those years and subsequently, Home Office ministers and officials with whom I dealt always strictly observed the constitutional position of never interfering with police direction of criminal inquiries. All my experience tells me it is inconceivable that Sir Joseph Simpson would conspire with the Home Secretary to pervert the course of justice.

Yours sincerely, GILBERT J. KELLAND (Assistant Commissioner (Crime), New Scotland Yard, 1977-84), 99 Devonshire Way, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey, June 3.

From Mrs K. Cubitt Hoffman. Sir, Mr Peel, who wrote to you (June 1) to express irritation that, as a British temporary overseas resident, he is unable to cast a vote in the general election, will at least be able to vote next time, if he has returned to the United Kingdom.

Others are less lucky. I am one of many Britons living abroad who are effectively disfranchised. As I retain my British passport, I am unable to vote in local or national elections where I live, although West Germany is happy to take my taxes.

I have no voting rights at home. Most galling of all, I, and many hundreds of thousands like me, cannot vote in European elections, even though I am a citizen of one European Community country and live and work in another. This is a particularly sinister anomaly.

What, I agree with Mr Peel, has happened to my democratic rights? Yours faithfully, KIRSTEN CUBITT HOFFMAN, Lohengrinstr 76, 8034 Germering, West Germany, June 4.

Safety standards

From the Chairman of the Association of Consulting Engineers. Sir, I welcomed the letter that you published on June 2 from Lord Caldecote and Dr Moulton warning those who direct and control their engineering staff are not put under pressure to jeopardise safety by cutting corners to save design costs.

The same applies to those who employ outside consultants to do their design work for them, and it is relevant to point out that there is an increasing tendency, led by the Government, to appoint engineers to design civil and structural engineering works largely on the basis of the lowest bid, or by including them in a design-and-construct package that is awarded on a lowest-tender basis. Most future road bridges will be designed under these procedures.

The engineers involved will certainly strive to maintain the highest safety standards, but it is wrong and potentially dangerous for them to be put under this additional pressure. Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY WILLIAMS, Chairman, The Association of Consulting Engineers, 111 St. James's House, 12 Caxton Street, Westminster, SW1, June 4.

Sad Chapter

From Count Alain de Liedekerke. Sir, It is a measure of my distress that I, a foreigner, presume to write on a subject of British national concern, namely the Chapter House of Westminster Abbey.

This historic place which represents the deepest expression of the British character is well known to the writer who had the honour of mounting an exhibition in this remarkable site in 1983.

The distress is to find one's reception in this place, organised now, in such a way, that through the uniform of the "Guards", you are plunged in an obsolete old army surplus atmosphere.

The "Guards", through their appearance, have no possibility to express the dignity and the authority that such a place commands.

Even in the Chapter House, will we be left, only, with the sound of the cash register ringing up at our side, in a cafeteria atmosphere?

The distress is: not to find what you always did receive, when you crossed the Channel: the demonstration of human dignity expressed in the behaviour and the appearance of the people. Yours sincerely, ALAIN DE LIEDERKERKE, Avenue Emile Duray 44, 1050 Brussels, May 25.

ON THIS DAY

JUNE 11 1851

Two classics of English literature appeared in their final form, close enough together in time to be reviewed in a combined 6,000-word article, of which the following is an extract

DAVID COPPERFIELD AND ARTHUR PENNENNIS.

Perhaps no greater distinction can be drawn between the two works than this, that the one confines itself to the artificial phantoms of society, the other to the real. Allow me, this, the wider scope of Mr. Dickens's novel is at once explained. There is room for more range of character - for a more diversified and suggestive tone. Mr. Thackeray tells us in his preface that he could willingly have treated us to squalor and crime - St. Giles's and a gallow's scene, but that he mistrusted his powers. The resolve was judicious, for what he has done he has done well, catching not a fibre of the force and spirit with which his favourite models, Smollett, Fielding, and Sterne, illustrated the realities of a century ago. Pennennis is not exactly a Tom Jones, but he is conceived from the same point of view. The only question is whether Mr. Thackeray has done wisely in applying the doctrine of limits to character so unvaryingly, and we are inclined to believe that, while he has observed keenly enough the peculiarities of the world which he depicts, he has not gauged the true human mind as skillfully as Mr. Dickens. In *David Copperfield* there are more contrasts of character, more varieties of intellect, a more diverse scenery, and more picturesque detail. It is the whole world rather than a bit of it which you see before you. There is first the childhood, vividly painted, happy and unsuspecting, with its ideas and feelings not at all overdone; in *Pennennis*, on the contrary, you have rather the fact of the skin, as Mr. Dickens, in *David Copperfield* described. There are, secondly, - and it is an artifice of which Mr. Dickens is somewhat too fond, - some people without wits in his tale. With Mr. Bailey we find no fault, for he is a pendant to Miss Trotwood, who could ill be spared; but Dora is an infliction. The effect, however, of these portraits is to throw the intellect of others into relief, and also to give a colouring such as the harmless enjoyments and simple affection of crazed people alone can give. There is no satire in the description of their extravagances: on the contrary, there is something at once joyous and tender, something mysterious and inspiring, in the history of a lunatic, which makes the skin and the Oriental revere him, and which made Wordsworth put him into verse. As he goes lower in the scale of intellect and manners, so also Mr. Dickens rises higher than Mr. Thackeray - his hero is greater than Pennennis, and his knowledge is to the other, as the effect of a general contrast running through the tale, and absorbs as much interest as the central figures by the force and dignity of the delineation; the depth of feeling revealed in Mr. Peggotty and in Ham, the energetic persistence of one, the passive endurance of the other, the less than Mrs. Gummidge's sudden conversion from querulousness to activity and self-forgetfulness, are the evidence at once of knowledge and of imagination. Nor is the mute Mr. Barkis's expressive gesture, or the leg-rubbing and strong vernacular of the boatman, less true to the life. What we cannot allow to Mr. Dickens is the invariable fidelity which accompanies Mr. Thackeray's characters. There are cases where his facts are not so true as his ideas.

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I believe it appears to be obvious that the leader of the Conservative Party that we have challenged in every year of the party

**BRITAIN
IS GREAT
AGAIN.
DON'T LET
LABOUR
WRECK IT.**

VOTE CONSERVATIVE [X]

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HEALTH

Wide awake in the theatre

Patients undergoing an operation performed by Charles McCollum, a general surgeon, can listen to music and enjoy a friendly chat while he is working. This is no medical eccentricity, merely a way of keeping them confident and relaxed, for many of McCollum's patients choose to stay awake throughout their operations. McCollum administers local anaesthetics himself for many of the routine operations he performs, such as those on varicose veins and hernias, at the Charing Cross Hospital in west London. If his patients so desire he will give a commentary, and says that "a surprising number, maybe a quarter" ask for a teaching mirror so that they can see what is going on.

According to Dr Bruce Scott, president of the European Society of Regional Anaesthesia, there is "virtually no operation known to man that cannot be performed under local anaesthesia". It is suitable, he says, for almost any surgery from the umbilicus to the toes, for some operations in the upper abdomen and certainly on the limbs. It can be used, for example, for hernia, bladder, prostate and varicose vein operations; for hip and joint replacements and other orthopaedics; for nearly all plastic surgery, and even for eye operations, especially cataracts.

Apart from pain, what most people dread about an operation is the general anaesthetic. There are immense disadvantages to being rendered unconscious. General

Many patients are choosing to stay awake during their operations, with growing backing from surgeons. Liz Gill discovers the advantages

anaesthetics mean extra time in hospital, starvation before them, grogginess and often nausea after, and a slight but none the less real risk - about one in 10,000 - of dying.

How much easier to have a local anaesthetic, freeing you from pain without all that stress and discomfort.

ESRA was formed five years ago to explore such potential and is now interested in its wider application, to the benefit of both patient and hospital.

Scott, a former consultant anaesthetist at the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh, recently visited China where 75 per cent of all surgery is done under local anaesthetics. (The use of acupuncture, he notes, is not as widespread as the West believes.) The Chinese are highly advanced in the lengthy and complex procedures used in sewing back severed

limbs or hands. "Those patients might have to keep immobile for 12 to 15 hours, but they know what is at stake and what movement would mean. It's amazing how that concentrates the mind wonderfully."

We are obviously a long way from that kind of self-discipline - Scott, unlike McCollum, has yet to encounter a patient who actually wants to watch his operation - but an increasing number are discovering the benefits of local anaesthesia, which lie mainly in the speed of recovery. For instance, a man who has had a hernia operation can go home in an ambulance within an hour, provided he has appropriate care at home and back-up from his GP.

Scott is cautious about over-stating his case. He does not, for example, see it as a way of slashing millions off NHS costs. Local anaesthetic drugs are certainly cheaper than general ones, but in either case their cost is only a minuscule part of the whole.

They can, however, mean less pre- and post-operative hospitalization. There is mounting interest in the subject in America, where patients pay almost by the hour. "The main attraction for hospitals here is that it's a much simpler and less upsetting process and the patient doesn't need constant checking," Scott says.

There is still debate about its relative safety. Some studies have suggested lower mortality rates with local anaesthetics, others that



Local benefit: a surgeon at Charing Cross Hospital operates on varicose veins as the patient relaxes by reading the newspaper

there is no difference. Significantly, says Scott, none has shown general anaesthetics to be safer. It does seem, though, that the risk of complications such as paralysis are slightly greater with local anaesthetics.

The gradual return to popularity of local anaesthetics - in Scott's experience the number of pregnant women who choose to have a Caesarean delivery and now wish to remain conscious during it has surged dramatically over the last decade, from virtually none to about 85 per cent - follows their almost complete elimination about 40 years ago when the introduction of muscle relaxants made general anaesthesia much easier. An infamous court case in the 1950s, following the paralysis of two fit young men and the death

of a third, after accidents with spinal anaesthesia, helped to turn most people against their use.

Consequently, a whole generation of anaesthetists has not learnt the newest procedures, a situation which Scott's society and its 800 members are trying to remedy.

It may be a strange experience for a patient to be awake during an operation where he can see, smell and hear, even if he cannot feel, but it is also a new experience for many doctors. Knowing a patient is conscious can be inhibiting, even downright burdensome: "There can be no throwing things and shouting. You have to be very gentle and calm, but that's no bad thing," Scott says.

Dr Anthony Rubin, consultant anaesthetist at Charing Cross Hos-

pital and McCollum's colleague, believes that the use of local anaesthetics cuts down the chances of needing a blood transfusion as there is usually less bleeding, which also enables a surgeon to work more quickly.

Rubin has used local anaesthetics in obstetrics, gynaecology, urology, orthopaedics, plastic and general surgery. For complaints such as hernias and varicose veins, the surgeon can administer the drugs, leaving anaesthetists to deal with more complicated cases. "But I never give it the hard sell. A lot of people are frightened about seeing and hearing things. They have the attitude: 'I don't mind what you do to me as long as I don't know about it.' If they show any signs of not being keen, I just back off."

McCollum believes they can give an enormous psychological boost to the patient's recovery: "You can be pain-free afterwards and able to get up and walk around." The fact that the patient is able to co-operate can help sometimes in an operation: "For instance, after a hernia I can ask them to give a couple of good coughs and I can actually see the repair pulling tight."

Older men and most women tend to be the most suitable subjects: strong, fit young men "the most wimpy", according to McCollum. "When I ask patients if they would have an operation done again this way, only about 2 per cent say they have any doubts, and by the next day the percentage has dropped to a half."

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Private IUD bonus

When the polls are closed and the shouting has ceased, doctors are hoping that money will be found for a new and better IUD for women who have already had a baby. If IUDs were more reliable, they would be cost effective. Ortho have produced a new copper T IUD, the Ortho Gynae T380 slimline, which they claim to be the best available, with a lower failure rate than any other. The manufacturers are initially recommending that it should be changed every four years, but studies show that it might have an effective life span of 10 years. Despite its advantages, it is only available privately at a cost of £10. It is not on the NHS drug tariff, although it has been fully licensed for use on a doctor's prescription. As with all IUDs, there is an increased risk of pelvic inflammatory disease and it is therefore not recommended for patients who are multi-partnered or those who have not completed their family.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

The article also dismisses the old myth that spices and herbs will destroy certain organisms and their toxins. They may disguise the taste of meat that is past its best, but they have no anti-bacterial power and, being very frequently contaminated themselves, their addition to any dish increases, rather than diminishes, the risk of a tummy upset.

Under a cloud?

By going to Venice before the other delegates, President Reagan was able to avoid one of the stranger manifestations of jetlag. It is well known that jetlag has an effect on mood, less well known that the effect is diametrically opposite if the passenger travels from east to west rather than west to east. Flying from east to west creates a mood of depression, the return flight one of euphoria. Politically this can be of importance, and its effect on negotiations before the Falklands War, when mediators were shuttling across the Atlantic, was thought by some observers to be all too apparent. It might therefore be expected that the delegates from Japan, who were coming in from the east, might view

the economic climate in an unnecessarily gloomy way and be more irritable and stubborn in the discussions that would have been the case if they had had longer to acclimatize themselves, whereas the Americans who arrived at the last minute might be surprisingly accommodating. Any time change of over two hours has an influence on mood. The problem was illustrated in a reported case history in the *British Medical Journal* of a patient whose manic depressive psychosis had been well controlled until she flew to Canada. The flight caused a breakdown, and she became acutely depressed. Similar findings were published in 1981 by doctors who studied passengers at Heathrow.

Dual purpose

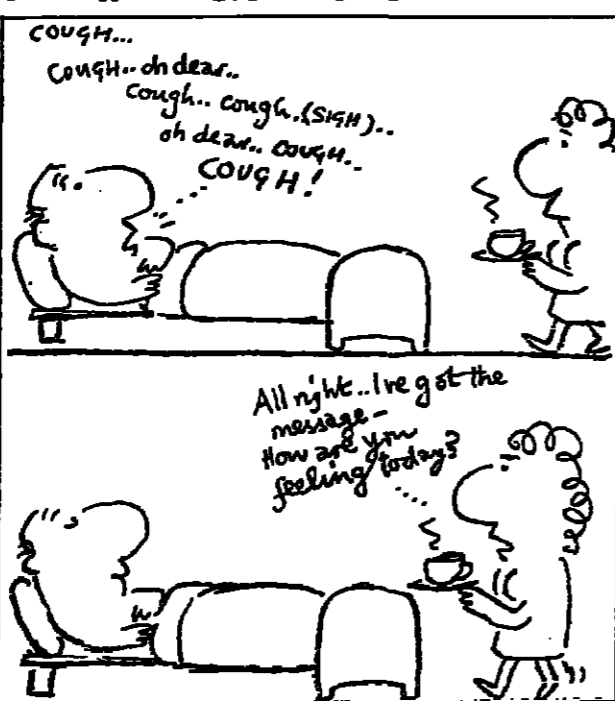
Women whose infertility is due to failure to ovulate and who are prescribed pills to induce ovulation are usually warned that more than one egg may be released, and that if the treatment is successful they may have a multiple pregnancy. Recent work at the University of Ghent, Belgium, reported in *The Lancet*, has shown that not only are the number of fraternal (dizygotic) twins increased, but there is also an increase in the incidence of identical twins in women taking fertility pills. The explanation for this is unknown. Twins are either dizygotic (derived from two different eggs from two different sperms with the offspring being no more similar to each other than any other brother and sister) or monozygotic (in which the egg, after fertilization, splits into two with the two embryos eventually developing into identical twins). The tendency to have dizygotic twins runs in families. But the Belgian doctors claim that the use of pills to induce ovulation artificially is the first factor to be shown to have an influence on the monozygotic twinning rate.



Flying fit: President Reagan

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

Calman's SICK NOTE



Rice advice

Rice used to be thought of as an innocuous part of any Chinese or Indian meal, but earlier this year research workers linked polished rice with duodenal ulceration. Now *World Health*, the magazine of the World Health Organization, has drawn attention to the ease with which *Bacillus cereus* can grow in cooked rice if it is kept at room temperatures below 60°C. Raw rice is often contaminated with this bacillus, it survives cooking, so that if rice is kept warm after cooking, or allowed to cool slowly, the organism has a perfect medium in which to multiply. The toxin produced by *Bacillus cereus* is not destroyed by reheating. *World Health* suggests that rice should not be eaten if it has been kept for more than two hours at room temperature, but as freezing inhibits the growth of the bacillus it could be stored in the deep freeze.

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THE ARTS

Cutting it fine

Women often cut their hair in the aftermath of momentous decision. Concern for such detail was no doubt the reason why Lisa Harrow, the Lizzie of the compulsive Lizzie's Pictures (BBC2), went for hers after embarking on a voyage of self-discovery, but all the same it was a mistake. She looked very much prettier before and, given that most men tuned in to this series must be hard

TELEVISION

pushed to find much to keep them happy, it seemed an unwise move to deprive them of at least a romantic-looking heroine.

Lizzie's boyish hair-do evolved from a weak moment in her best friend's love-nest off Kilburn High Road, when she pondered over the irrepressible fact that finding herself meant missing her children and so wondered whether 'I might feel less like a mother if I changed my hair-style'. She had only to look at her careerist friend Sandy to realize that short hair was no answer. Sandy had even longer hair and she was the kind of woman whose husband washed up while she dried.

Pure over-indulgence provides the addictive element in this emotion-pulling series. Girlfriends burst into tears of speechless joy when they clap eyes on each other, mothers are mad and bitter, children are heartless and not only wives but husbands are battered too. The men in Lizzie's Pictures were a sad bunch. One was a callous brute who employed seductive glances to discover the whereabouts of his brown cords and another a nervous wreck who broke down over the Chianti classic, although I have a feeling he might be going to find himself too at some point.

Amongst all this drama there was also time for some very well sketched characters such as that of Grace, the fat schoolgirl in 1965 who remained a fat spinster in 1987, although not, she pointed out, as fat as she was last Tuesday. However, why is it that in order to give women the leading roles the men needed to be turned into impossibly insubstantial, grotesque caricatures?

Alexandra Shulman

66 The last 10 years was an interesting process. People expect you to fall apart. 79 HIGH FLEETWOOD OF FLEETWOOD MAC

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Attempting to spoof the clichés of the Spaghetti Western: Xander Berkeley as Preacher McMahon in 'Straight to Hell'

Joke that misfired

Film distributors appear to be taking advantage of the slack period produced by the election, and vain anticipation of summer weather, to clear their shelves of hard-to-move product; and the West End cinemas have taken on something of the character of those clearance sales when tailors get rid of jackets buttoned on the wrong side and trousers with two left legs.

Easily the worst of these misfits is Alex Cox's first film since Sid and Nancy. It shows all the signs of a young director convinced - quite unjustifiably - by success and flattery that he cannot go wrong. On the admission of Cox's co-writer, Dick Rude, the film "began as a joke" and was written in three days - though it is hard to see how they used even that much time on it.

Attempting lamely to spoof the clichés of the Spaghetti Western, it was shot in Spain and played by a cast of personalities who may be in-names in the pop music world but betray little talent for comic acting. There are also guest walk-ons by Grace Jones, Denis Hopper and Jim Jarmusch. It was no doubt a lot of fun to make - they threaten a sequel - but the unhappy spectator may well find it aptly titled Straight to Hell.

Another instance of the hazards of instant reputation, Beth Henley had a hit with her first play, Crimes of the Heart, and was therefore typed as zany, kooky and oddball. In her first screenplay, Nobody's Fool, she strives to create a locale and character to suit. Rosanna Arquette inhabits a mythical southern town, has suffered a traumatic betrayal in love and gets herself up like a modern-dress Ophelia in the mad scene, with frilly drawers and flowers in her hair. Unaccountably she attracts the attention of Eric Roberts, who is stage designer and electrician with a travelling theatre of outlandish pretensions. The rest of the film is taken up with her remarkably unspontaneous indecision between this nice (and suitably nutty) prospect and the creep who got her pregnant and then abandoned her. Evelyn Process directs her first film with little style.

Nothing in Common, directed by Garry Marshall from a script by Rick Podell and Michael Preminger, starts off as a comedy about the advertising world, with Tom Hanks as the quip-a-minute whiz-kid of the agency. Diverging into an

CINEMA

Straight to Hell (15) Metro; Scala

Nobody's Fool (15) Warner Leicester Square; Cannon Tottenham Court Road

Nothing in Common (15) Warner Leicester Square; Cannon Haymarket

The Gate (15) Cannon Oxford Street

Dona Herlinda and Her Son (15) Everyman Hampstead; Cannon Piccadilly

intrigue about sleeping with the daughter of the airline mogul whose account he is hunting, it has a few sharp comments on the feudal world of big business, with its hierarchies and humiliations.

Then the story takes a turn for the mawkish worse as the son learns to love his grouchy dad (Jackie Gleason) after the old man is abandoned by his wife and severely amputated on account of diabetes. You have stopped believing long before the unlikely pay-off to the drama.

In fact it is easier to believe in the characters of an out-and-out fantasy. The Gate - not least because, apart from some walk-on parents, they are all children, animals and special-effects monsters. A Canadian film produced and directed by emigré Hungarians (Andras Hamori and Tibor Takacs respectively), it loyally follows the essential routines of the supernatural horror genre: infernal forces are released when an ancient tree is uprooted, and invade and destroy a respectable suburban house.

There is a superior quality of imagination at work however. The incidents of Michael Hankin's screenplay are not concocted so much as derived from common childhood nightmares; and the visualization is often inventive. The demons are a bit conventional, but the image of an eye which materializes in the palm of a child's hand, and is subsequently stabbed with broken glass, has an echo of Buñuel.

The one film of the week that can be recommended without reserve is Dona Herlinda and Her Son, written and directed by Jaime Humberto Hermosillo, who is currently the subject of a 12-film retrospective at the National Film Theatre. Hermosillo, who has been making films since 1971, cites Buñuel and Eric Rohmer as influences like them; he delights in showing how the precariously sustained structures of bourgeois society are constantly threatened by the uncontrollable caprices of the human heart.

Dona Herlinda and Her Son is a funny, sophisticated and subversive essay on the theme that Mothers Know These Things. Dona Herlinda is an endearing, cosy body. Like any good Latin mother, she is busily engineering her son's marriage; but at the same time she is fondly attached to his boyfriend, a charming young music student. It is her suggestion to take the boy into their home - her son's bed, she accommodates - is quite big enough for two. And when the son fulfils her dreams, gets married and fathers a beautiful boy, it is again her idea to build on an extra apartment to accommodate the happy ménage - husband, wife, lover and baby.

It is all done with disarmingly good-natured mischief. The interwoven relationships are infused with a sense of genuine affection. Guadalupe del Toro is marvellous as Dona Herlinda herself, never letting on how much she understands, and turning a bland blind eye when she chances on the boys in a scene of torrid passion in the garden. In one touching moment alone we recognize how much she senses, if she does not understand; at the theatre on the night of the wedding, listening to a sentimental song, she discreetly and without a glance passes the boyfriend a handkerchief to wipe his eyes.

David Robinson

Conflict at the piano

Last week Paul Griffiths had occasion to write on this page about Julian Jacobson's performance, the first in this country, of Ligeti's first book of Etudes. Judging from his words, that reading was fired with a great deal more panache than that of the French pianist Louise Sibourd, whose Almeida Festival account seemed somewhat stiff and studied.

Still, it was good that we should have had another chance so soon to observe the contrasts between Ligeti at his most mechanically manic, as in "Disorder", the first piece, and at his more poetically suggestive, as in "Rainbow", the fifth.

Equally satisfyingly, the concert included the two-piano work Monument-Selbstporträt-Bewegung (1976), given by the team of Keith Williams and Clive Williamson. Here the contrasts seemed even

CONCERT

Louise Sibourd Almeida Theatre

more vivid. Has Ligeti imposed his impersonal methods upon the piano, or has the piano led to a more subjective, softer dialectic?

It is a matter of progression from one to the other, from the harsh rhythmic polyphony of the first piece, through the still distanced, interrupted murmurings of the second, to the third, a "figured" variation of the first.

Before these two works, the performers shared the task of revealing something of what the composer's piano music written in Hungary under the totalitarian yoke was like.

The 1943 Polyphonic Etude, for piano duet, is a speculative

work indicative of later mechanistic techniques, whose scenes, innocently diatonic in themselves, are combined in anarchic-sounding counterpoint. Then in the two Capriccios, for solo piano, muscular rhythms and spare, linear textures predominate, while in the Invention (also solo, and from the same year, 1948) the theme radiates outwards from focal pitches set a diminished fifth apart.

If these seemed like mere loosening-up exercises, the Sonata for piano duet (1950) and the cycle Musica ricercata (1951-53) were both shocks, the Sonata for its Bartókian conventionalism, the cycle for an audacious scheme, where the first piece uses only two notes, one only at the very end, the second three, and so on, until the apotheosis of a chromatic fugue.

Stephen Pettitt

THEATRE

Demon Lovers Warehouse, Croydon

shots, each making a different style of comment on her love-life, and representing, so Lowe suggests we accept, the different cells Dawn has within her. Likewise with Alan, the boss who becomes her lover. There are decent performances by a generously smiling Tanya Myers and a brooding George Costigan.

Each has a self that goes pallid with rage when frustrated and an amoral one that thinks it knows best. Alan's fancies itself as Harry Lime, on top of the Big Wheel in another, more celebrated fairground.

The couple become partners

in a murder; and making parts of the personality talk to one another is a potentially fruitful device that could show up the gap between thought and utterance. Lowe contents himself with something simpler, just letting the selves struggle for supremacy, in a setting where the alternatives are those of Alan's business world: kill or be killed.

It is easy to freeze-frame a video to shut it up but, if this is an image of the psychopathic mind, we are given only Alan's passion for secrecy as clear indicator of abnormality, while Dawn resorts to nothing more eccentric than dancing a flamenco in her council flat. What impels them to pick up a little girl is omitted from both screen and stage, suggesting an author's hand turned too often to the fast forward.

Jeremy Kingston

Against all the odds a popular success

DANCE

Christopher Walker reports on the Royal Ballet's first night in Moscow

The Royal Ballet returned to Moscow on Tuesday after a break of 26 years and scored a success, with its production of Manon, which was rated by local experts as just short of a triumph. Competing with sweltering indoor temperatures and the crimping-restricted surroundings of the Operetta Theatre, the company received a welcome matched by the furious black market for tickets, which were selling to the eight-deep crowd outside for 10 times their six rouble (£6) cover price.

At a champagne and caviar reception which preceded the performance, Sir John Tooley, the general director of the Royal Opera House, bravely expressed in public the "disappointment" of the company that they had not been able to make their return at the famous Bolshoi Theatre. The company's banishment to the nearby Operetta, with its greatly limited facilities, was caused by the full-scale renovation of the Bolshoi.

It was not until the negotiations for the Royal Ballet to perform were well under way that we learnt that the Bolshoi,

the temple of ballet, would not be available", Sir John said. "But, given the invitation, it would have seemed churlish to turn down the possibility of performing here despite the many problems which have been imposed."

As it was, Russian balletomanes were packing the circle of the Operetta two and three deep on the steps between the rows of seats as Manon, choreographed by Sir Kenneth MacMillan to music by Massenet, began. To the British delegation's disappointment both intervals were dry, as a result of the Kremlin's clamp-down on alcohol.

Although the explicit sexual overtones of the ballet were hard for some of the Soviet audience to bear, the majority were fulsome in their praise for the passionate and stylish

performances of the leading dancers. "It was the best thing that we have seen here for 20 years, so much more lyrical and full of feeling than we are used to", said a Russian teacher of English in her mid-seventies who was squatting in the circle. "What we appreciated most was the settings and the way that the dancers really seemed to live their parts on the stage."

Senior members of the Royal Opera House delegation appeared worried in the early stages at the slow reaction from an audience unused to the narrative style of the ballet (and upset by the lack of a proper programme identifying the leading performers), but were heartened by the 10 curtain calls which came at the end and the loud cries of "bravo" from all sides of the 2,000-seat auditorium.

Particular praise was reserved by the Russian audience for the fluid and expressive dancing of Jennifer Penney in the taxing role of Manon, and for Anthony Dowell, who as her faithful and besotted lover, Des Grieux, had laid his reputation on the line by dancing the lead in his own company at such a crucial moment in its international history.

The long absence of the Royal Ballet after its trend-setting visit here in 1961 was explained by Sir John as due to both political and economic reasons. The two events which he singled out as preventing an early return were the march of Warsaw Pact troops into Czechoslovakia in 1968 and the invasion by the Soviet army of Afghanistan 11 years later.

Sir John also had strong words for successive British governments, whom he belaboured for failing to realize the potential of ballet in a country like Russia and failing to provide sufficient funding for such visits. Most of the hard cash for the present month-long tour, which also takes the company to Leningrad, has come from Barclays Bank and Quest Automation.



Jennifer Penney and Anthony Dowell, audience favourites

Meanwhile, back home, John Percival reviews Les Grands Ballets Canadiens at Sadler's Wells

What one looks for in the opening programme of a visiting season is some kind of statement of the company's aims and credentials. Les Grands Ballets Canadiens have long pursued an eclectic policy and Tuesday night's performance at Sadler's Wells faithfully represented that at the cost of seeming somewhat vague in focus.

The centrepiece is a new interpretation of Stravinsky's Rite of Spring by James Kudelka, who has been since 1984 the most active of the company's three resident choreographers. Kudelka offers an extraordinary treatment which replaces the composer's intention of a sacrifice with a confused and bizarre ritual of gestation and birth, set in an undefined country and period. This plot sits almost awkwardly on the music as do the steps Kudelka has devised for his cast of four soloists (parents, midwife and village elder) and two groups of 10 men and 10 women.

Andrea Boardman shows stamina as the mother, dancing most of the time with a padded costume, and Catherine LaFortune manages to avoid causing either embarrassment or laughter as she reaches repeatedly up under her patient's skirts to push down on her belly while dancing. The two men seem strong but stiff and far less interesting or plausible. None of the cast is helped much by Sylvain Labelle's almost pompously formal version of appropriate wear for such circumstances, and I am still trying to work out just what is meant by the collapse of both parents when the midwife presents a little rag bundle in a

basket at the end. Perhaps it is an equivalent of Lord Egremond's renowned reply, when asked if his first-born were a boy or a girl, "I hope so".

The music is played in the composer's arrangement for two pianists (they use separate instruments where he wrote for one). For the programme's other novelty, Tango Accelerando, there is a four-piece group on stage playing pieces by three Argentinian composers, of whom only Astor Piazzolla comes over with any individuality.

With this as accompaniment, another Canadian choreographer, Ginette Laurin, has arranged a ragbag of steps, wriggles, jumps, squeaks, barked commands, posturing, reeling, writhing and fainting

in coils. Any relationship to the real tango is distant and transitory. I feel particularly sorry for the women, who are obliged to look vivacious while performing this nonsense and wearing costumes that blend several conflicting Hollywood clichés into the most unflattering mixture imaginable: bikini tops with wide straps, bare midriffs, long skinny skirts, socks and jizz shoes.

Balanchine's Agon began the evening, with Nicole Lamontagne, Edward Hillier and Sylvain Senez in the second pas de trois the best of a well-trained but uneven cast. The sinewy choreography carries its own interest and the Wren Orchestra tackled Stravinsky's score bravely.

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BOOKS

Alone on a world sea

Peter Ackroyd reviews a period salt sea yarn, that is also our symbolic Ship of Fools, with landfall uncertain and future obscure

The Nobel is a ticket to one's funeral. T.S. Eliot declared when he discovered that he had been awarded that prize. "No one has ever done anything after he got it." In many cases this is undoubtedly true; although, since the Nobel tends to be given to writers advanced in years, the debility may be put down to age as much as to the weariness of satisfied ambition. But it was not true of Eliot himself — he went on to write *The Cocktail Party* — and on the evidence of this book it is not true of William Golding either. Great novelists tend to have shorter creative lives than great poets; but here is Golding, in his mid-70s, actually engaged upon a trilogy.

On the first page of *Close Quarters*, in fact, the narrator declares that this "is not a continuation but a new venture" — a disclaimer all the more necessary since this novel is the second part of a journey which began with *Rites of Passage* in 1980. It is not always easy to pick up an old theme (like an old suit, it might turn out to be too small) but Golding has been assisted by the intense focus of his original story: a man-of-war bound for "the Antipodes" in 1814, a certain Edmund Talbot is writing his own imaginative version of a log-book. On one level it might be read as an historical journal, therefore, with its rehearsal of shipboard life (a ball, an incipient romance) at a time when such protracted journeys were dangerous. The ship itself becomes caught at a point "where two tides meet," and in this becalmed state

CLOSE QUARTERS
By William Golding
Faber, £9.95

there is sickness, anxiety, and even a suicide. But if this is a re-creation of an early 19th-century maritime journal, it is one that has been affected by 20th-century images: gradually the ship seems to be changing personality, and in this strange atmosphere of immobility the passengers themselves let in water, as it were, "all laughing as if the place were bedlam".

The *Ship of Fools* is an ancient device, of course; but since this particular vessel is very firmly ensconced on the oceans of 1814, it is important to get the period details right. Here Golding has been largely successful; he has managed to evoke something of that rancid, racy, and decaying age — itself becalmed between the 18th century and the Victorian era — but, perhaps more importantly, he has learned how to "talk Tarpaulin". It is all very well to describe the difficulties of early Methodism or the decline in the practice of duelling, but such details would count for nothing if Golding came to grief over lanyards, mizzen masts, and shrouds. But he does not; he is a complete 19th-century sailor.

His command of idiolect must in part be responsible for the vigour of his prose; and after the relative slackness of his previous book, *The Paper Men*, this new novel signals a

welcome return to a more graceful and succinct style. But the language is not necessarily all his own: he has adapted the cadences and the vocabulary of his period on the plausible grounds that, if you are going to invade the past, there is no better point of entry than its language. He is not always at ease with his chosen style — there are times when it has a somewhat precious quality, as if this were really just a conventional "historical novel" — but on the whole Golding creates a substantial illusion of the past without abandoning the resources of contemporary narrative.

And this is one of the advantages of the modern historical novel — it attends both to the present and to the past, and in that Janus posture it is able more fully to see the surrounding world. But the fashion for historical fiction may be precisely that — a fashion — and Golding's work goes much farther back. He is part of that central line in the English novel which might be described as "symbolic fiction" — a much older tradition than the much touted "magical realism", incidentally, but one with an equivalent hold upon the poetic possibilities of prose narrative.

So it is that although *Close Quarters* is principally a "sea yarn" of the early 19th century, the fact that the ship has become stuck "in the doldrums... in a wilderness of heat, stillness and mist" suggests the possibilities of a statement larger than anything Captain Marrayat could muster. The idea of a small or isolated community is one



Grand Old Man of the Sea and symbolism and the terrible disease of being human

which is central to Golding's imagination and, in describing it here, he comes close to disclosing the nature of his vision: social life — and indeed human life — becomes the material of a great game, a babble of small voices on an endless sea. "This tropical nowhere was the whole world — the whole imaginable world," Edmund Talbot writes, but he is forced to conclude that it is "a... a nothing".

And yet it has to be said that *Close Quarters* does not have the power of *Rites of Pas-*

sage — primarily, I suspect, because the earlier novel was dominated by the obsessions of a certain Reverend Colley whose self-willed death emphasized "all that is monstrous under the sun and moon". There is no one here as interesting as that unhappy cleric; what we have, instead, is a maritime situation which may or may not eventually be resolved.

It is perhaps a tribute to the topography of the novel that everything here seems flatter and more uncertain — as in the middle of any journey

(this is the second novel of the proposed trilogy), the beginnings and ends seem distant or unreal, the present moment a blank, a period of waiting. So the novel itself seems provisional, its conclusion inconclusive, its authority as a work of imagination not yet determined and dependent upon its place in the complete sequence. One thing is certain, however, the Nobel Prize has proved not to be the ticket to William Golding's funeral. His present condition is healthy, and the prognosis is excellent.

The sport of brawn porn

Jonathan Meades

ON BOXING
By Joyce Carol Oates
Bloomsbury, £9.95

The unqualified title indicates the extent of Miss Oates's fistic chauvinism. This book is notes towards a draft of a meditative essay on the American sport of game or bestial commerce. The ascription of "universality" — always a dodgy notion — to the only boxing that the author knows, American boxing, is presumptuous and doesn't hold up. Sure, a guy trying to put his opponent's nose through his brain in Tulsa or Des Moines has a kinship with the artist who's at it in Davenport or Toul; but it's a faint kinship, for the Englishman and the Frenchman are not performing a rite that is central to the society they want to ascend; they are doing something that is peripheral, sectarian.

But in America boxing is mainstream; it's where the greatest champions come from and that's where the greatest boxing writing comes from — it has prompted a literature that is as idiosyncratic and as unwittingly parochial as English stuff on cricket, and, doubtless, Belgian stuff on cycling. Spanish stuff on tauromachy. The English, infamously shy of big themes, treat boxing with sociological tact.

Miss Oates doesn't allow herself to be inhibited by such misgivings — if an idea comes to her she whacks it in; she has no thesis, she hardly has a programme. This is a book written with the intention of discovering why it should be written; what we are made privy to is Miss Oates's investigation of her unlikely vocation, its causes and its pull on her. Just as her bathetic notions are countered by pretty acute ones, so is her self-analysis tempered by a sort of sexual neutrality — the one thing she is not particularly eager to resolve is why as a woman, necessarily wanting the opportunity to "identify" with this or that fighter, the blue or the red, she should be so zealous an amateur.

Maybe this question of gender is not pertinent; maybe the real divide is between boxers and non-boxers irrespective of

whether the latter be m. or f. This divide seems fundamental to the understanding of boxing, and Miss Oates properly returns to it, again and again. The point she argues is that boxing is not a metaphor for anything else because boxers are willing to be hurt, will continue fighting even when unconscious on their feet. They are programmed not to give up; they would fight to the death were it not for the intervention of a second or referee.

And when one vastly muscled man slumps, as though stripped of his motor skills it recalls a beast injured in a mortal struggle, it does not recall anything human. It is in the transcendence of pain and the inability to surrender that boxers are different; pride vanquishes the instinct for survival. Fighters are not murdered; a death in the ring or, more likely, in hospital five days later (a hospital the fighter never sees) is a sort of suicide.

It is the possibility of witnessing a terrible injury or worse — the crowd is baying "Kill 'im, kill 'im" — that lifts boxing, especially big-time boxing, from being merely a cosy homo-erotic spectacle into teratological one: boxers are as freakish as a sideshow mutant. The fact that a boxer has made his body strong while a wretched creature born with auxiliary limbs is liable to be weak makes no difference — what whets our appetites is the *otherness* of boxing, the way men make themselves into monsters in order to be able to do it, the way the whole show scorns nature and turns that old mother inside out. Miss Oates gets to the core of this appeal often enough, even if she is a mite reticent in admitting that what she has so eloquently written on is the backdoor union of porn and brawn.

NEW HARDBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books:
A Life With Alan, by Eva Haraszti Taylor (Hamish Hamilton, £14.95) Diary of A.J.P. Taylor's wife from 1978 to 1985
Best Radio Plays of 1986, The BBC Gies Cooper Award (Methuen, £12.95) Short-list of five: winner announced today
Collected Prose of Robert Lowell, edited and introduced by Robert Giroux (Faber, £17.50) Criticism, autobiography, essays
Justinian & Theodora, by Robert Browning (Thames & Hudson, £14.95) Son of a peasant and dissolute actress who ruled the world and fended off the barbarians for a time
Such is Life, by Brian Adams (Hutchinson, £16.95) Biography of Sidney Nolan, our most famous Australian expatriate artist
The Beader-Melnhof Group, by Stefan Aust, trans. Anthea Bell (The Bodley Head, £18) Inside the wild glory of terror
The Grassmole Journal, by Dorothy Wordsworth (Michael Joseph, £12.95) Introduction by Jonathan Wordsworth, illustrated with pictures and documents held by Dove Cottage
The Struggles for Poland, by Neal Ascherson (Michael Joseph, £14.95) Illustrated history to go with C4 TV series
Vladimir's Carrot, by John Peter (André Deutsch, £17.95) Philosophical approach to modern drama and the modern imagination by drama critic of *The Sunday Times*
Young England, by Richard Faber (Faber, £15) The original young Tories of the 1840s who launched this experiment in populist Toryism, and were led by Disraeli in Parliament

Lit Crit hit list

CRIME

Marcel Berlins

A MASCULINE ENDING

By Joan Smith
Faber, £9.95

The dead don't Pudding that was a post-structuralist, but that was not the only reason for his Parisian demise. Loretta Lawson, spunky but sensitive feminist lecturer and founder of the Fem Sap collectors, investigates among the bitchy groves of petty academe, trailing some clever literary and emotional allusions behind her. This is a superb first, intelligent and literate without being pretensions, drily witty and crafted with a maturity that belies Smith's inexperience. She is not scared to use long words and subtle idiom, but never does so brazenly; she knows where lessons end and action begins. Lawson, sepa-

rated journalist husband in the background, is a fanciable sleuth whose return would be most welcome.

● Serious Crimes, by D.W. Smith (Macmillan, £8.95). Sexual and financial musical chairs leading to double

deaths at weekend party, with Inspector Harry Fathers unravelling. An excellent, intricate, traditional whodunit in a thoroughly modern moral setting, with unusual perception and accuracy in its political and social glances. In only his second appearance, Fathers already has depth, character, and credibility.

● Die-Cast, by Neville Stead (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £9.95). Stead's debut *Tinplate*, recently won the John Creasey Memorial Award for the best first crime novel of 1986; his second consolidates this promise. Hero Peter Marklin, dealer in antique toys in Dorset, looks into the murder of ex-Hollywood vamp's nearly ex-husband and finds much past scandal, sex, drugs, and other typically louche activities of the West Coast. The minor characters need building up, but Marklin looks a reasonable long-term bet.

● Poison, by Ed McBain (Hamish Hamilton, £9.95). Even his second division tales are better than most crime writers can ever attain. Detective Willis of the 87th implacably goes mooning for a prostitute whose friends are being bumped off. Taut mystery compensates for unlikely emotions.

● Talking To Strange Men, by Ruth Rendell (Hutchinson, £10.95). Adolescent private games become entangled with adult criminal secrets in another virtuoso examination of the dark recesses of the psyche. Rendell in full flow can make the word "hello" seem unbearably sinister. This novel is over-complex and the characters too remote for full reader engagement, but the frissons remain long after the last page.

● Element Of Doubt, by Dorothy Simpson (Michael Joseph, £9.95). Errant wife's fall from balcony providing flashings of past and present murder motives for lovers, ex-lovers, husband, and assorted thwarted relatives. The quiet inspector Thonet faces the deceased's claustrophobic family with his usual comforting competence.

● Halo Parade, by Bill James (Constable, £8.95). Murky realism on the undercover beat, with Chief Super Harper in foul mood as plans to net a super criminal go awry and a copper dies. Almost too believable, often distasteful, powerfully gripping; for the stronger reader.

● Murder In E Minor, by Robert Goldsborough (Collins, £8.95). Sub-titled "A Nero Wolfe Mystery", a well-written oddity by a writer who has clearly studied Rex Stout's style with passion.

You remember the ship setting out from Long Island piled high with rubbish, plying the seas desperately trying to find a place to discharge its cargo?

Well, I think it managed to slip into some secret little creek in this country and dump the books section of its manifest.

What's so depressing about this month's selection of American novels is not that the books are bad. It's just that they are so damnably mediocre and predictable.

Valerie Miner's *All Good Women* is a perfect example of the genre. It is the story of four girls who meet in a Business College in San Francisco in the years before the Second World War. They move into a house together. Their friendship flourishes.

So far so good. In a sub Mary McCarthy fashion characters are fashioned, relationships established, and a feel for place and time and mood created quite surely.

Then war breaks out and the book at once lapses into sentimentality, melodrama and, worst of all, plain, stolid dullness.

The publishers claim that most war books are about men, but this one breaks new ground by being about women. So what? If this quality is to have any virtue it must give dazzling and original insights into warfare which could only be seen through the eye of a woman.

The major battle involved in this book was the battle to finish it.

Gone To Soldiers by Marge Piercy is a huge rambling 600-odd page edifice built on similar foundations.

Once again the background is the Second World War — all of it; every bullet, every drop of blood, every cry of agony, and all directed against the reader in a massive bombardment of banality.

The cast of characters is immense. The action shoots and darts to every nook and cranny of the conflagration. It is just like *Dynasty* played in tin helmets and puttees — all is shallow, all is brittle and inconsequential.

Oh, please come back Mailler, Wouk, and Dos Passos.

Richard Ford's *A Piece of My Heart* is the one that slipped through the trash can. What a relief.

All girls on the western front

FICTION

Peter Timmiswood

ALL GOOD WOMEN

By Valerie Miner
Methuen, £10.95

GONE TO SOLDIERS

By Marge Piercy
Michael Joseph, £10.95

A PIECE OF MY HEART

By Richard Ford
Collins Harvill, £10.95

CRY BABY

By Rosalind Franey
Dedalus/Hippocrene, £9.95

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T 11/6/87

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY

★ Seats available
★ Returns only

THEATRE

LONDON

★ BLUES IN THE NIGHT: Black blues musical. Debut by Bishop, Maria Friedman and Carol Woods in a 30s Chicago hotel...

★ BREAKING THE CODE: Riveting performance by Derek Jacobi as the enigmatic Alan Turing...

★ BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS: Neil Simon's vivid recollection of a Brighton childhood...

★ HAMLET: Ingrid Bergman's acclaimed production from the Royal Dramatic Theatre of Stockholm...

★ JENKINS' EAR: New musical by Alan Ayckbourn...

★ KISS ME KATE: After its national tour the RSC production opens in town with Paul Jones and Nichola McAuliffe...

★ NUNSENSE: Off-broadway musical set in a convent...

★ PAIN OF YOUTH: Ferdinand Bruckner's sensational play in its first production...

★ RICHARD II: Jeremy Irons and Michael Kitchen play the warring cousins in Barry Kyle's strongly...

BEST SELLING BOOKS

Best selling books for the week ending June 8, 1987

Table with columns for Fiction, Non-Fiction, Paperbacks, and Audiobooks. Lists titles like 'Rage' by Wilbur Smith, 'The Life of My Choice' by Wilfred Thesiger, etc.

FILMS

★ Also on national release
★ Advance booking possible

★ CHARING CROSS ROAD (U): Transatlantic romance between Helene Hanft and James Barncroft...

★ THE COLOR OF MONEY (15): Paul Newman returns to the pool table in a belated sequel to The Hustler...

★ THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (PG): Eccentric story of a girl and a man-painting plant salesman...

★ MELO (PG): Henry Bernstein's fable about two violinists in love with the same waitress...

★ THE MORNING AFTER (15): Unlikely thriller from Sidney Lumet, with Jane Fonda running away from a dead body into the arms of a reformed convict...

★ NAME OF THE ROSE (18): Simplified edition of Umberto Eco's medieval murder mystery...

★ LA TRAVIATA: Glyndebourne's new Verdi production by Peter Hall...

★ FROM TRINITY: Meredith Davies conducts the Trinity College of Music Symphony Orchestra...

★ LA TRAVIATA: Also in York in the production by Roy production of great perception and elegance for Opera North...

★ BILLY BUDD: Another production for Scottish Opera in their Silver Jubilee Year...

★ LA BOHEME: Welsh National Opera's justifiably popular production, now with Jane Leslie...

★ THE REAL SOUNDS: Top 13-piece dance band from Zimbabwe...

★ TINA TURNER: A big, vibrant show, tailor-made for the arena...

★ CLIVE GREGSON & CHRISTINE COSTER: Currents in song...

★ BEN E. KING: The 'Stand By Me' singer has a new recording contract...

★ IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA: 700 Proms places are available at £3...

★ NUNSENSE: Off-broadway musical set in a convent...

★ UP ON THE ROOF: The story of a young man who falls in love with a girl who is a nun...

★ LAURENCE OLIVIER: The ultimate experience of the theatre...

★ SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: A series of recordings of the works of Shakespeare...

★ STARLIGHT EXPRESS: Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical about a young man who falls in love with a girl who is a nun...

★ ME AND MY GIRL: The musical about a young man who falls in love with a girl who is a nun...

★ THREE SISTERS: The musical about three sisters who are waiting for their husbands to return from the war...

★ LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES: The musical about a young man who falls in love with a girl who is a nun...

OUT OF TOWN

★ CANTERBURY: A Knuckle: David Hare's fast-moving private-eye thriller, with Brian Cox, Joanna Hogg and Ernest Clark...

★ LEICESTER: The Mask of Moriarty: Hugh Leonard's spoof thriller pits Holmes against his old nemesis, a hit at the Dublin festival...

★ MANCHESTER: Antony and Cleopatra: Shakespearean love and glory from an admirable company...

★ RICHMOND: Siegfried Sassoon: Peter Barkworth's moving, one-man show, using the poet's own memoirs...

★ STRATFORD: The Merchant of Venice: Bill Alexander's new production with Anthony Sher as Shylock and Deborah Findlay as Portia...

★ STRATFORD: Temptation: Latest sharp comedy by Václav Havel, directed by Havel in his own country...

★ THREE MEN AND A CRADLE (PG): Written and directed by Colin Serreau, a Hollywood remake is now in production...

★ THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Directed by Harold Prince, the musical about a blind singer who falls in love with a girl who is a nun...

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The most recent postscript in a career that has appeared to be a succession of final chapters was Iggy Pop's milkily achievement last January of his first hit single, 'Real Wild Child'...



destruction in the early Seventies, helping with the production of the classic Raw Power, and stepped in again in 1977 to produce two of Pop's most successful albums The Idiot and Lust For Life...

CONCERTS

★ HORSZOWSKI: Isaac Capricorn. Wigmore Hall, 30 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-262 2411), 7.30pm, £2-7.50.

★ FROM TRINITY: Meredith Davies conducts the Trinity College of Music Symphony Orchestra...

★ LA TRAVIATA: Also in York in the production by Roy production of great perception and elegance for Opera North...

★ BILLY BUDD: Another production for Scottish Opera in their Silver Jubilee Year...

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JAZZ

★ TOMMY FLANAGAN: From Ella Fitzgerald to Duke Ellington, the pianist has been one of the most influential soloists...

★ GREENWICH FESTIVAL: The saxophonist and composer Gail Thompson, leading an all-star band, shares the bill with the superbly entertaining saxophone soloist...

★ JOSEFOVITZ & CO: Susanne Melles soloist at Rodrigo's Concerto de Aranjuez and a Vivaldi D major Concerto...

★ CAPRICORN CONCERT: The Capricorn ensemble unites Sir Hubert Parry's Nonet and juxtaposes it with Mozart's...

★ SQUARE DANCE: George Ballenchee's brilliant display piece is given by Les Grandis Ballets...

★ THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Directed by Harold Prince, the musical about a blind singer who falls in love with a girl who is a nun...

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OTHER EVENTS

★ WEIGHING THE HEART: A lively though puzzling collaboration between Second Stone and the band Man Jumping...

★ TALES OF HOFFMANN: Peter Dinklage's fine dance adaptation of Offenbach for Scottish ballet. His Majesty's, Union Street, Aberdeen (0224 641122), 7.45-10.15pm, £5-£11.

GALLERIES

SCENES FROM SWEDEN: Watercolours and prints by the Swedish artist Jan Gertzelius in an exhibition mounted to coincide with performances of Bergman's Hamlet...

PATR DE FRANCIA: Humanist paintings and drawings by the artist who retired last year as the Royal College of Art's Professor of Painting...

21ST SUMMER EXHIBITION: Among this year's 1,320 efforts is one by Prince Charles, who uses the pseudonym Prince of Wales...

HENRY MOORE AND LANDSCAPES: 33 works exhibited in an ornamental park by the artist who considered sculpture to be essentially an outdoor art...

SCHWITTERS IN BRITAIN: This exhibition re-appraises the work of the Dada collageist who spent the last eight years of his life in London and Amsterdam...

WALTER RICHARD SICKERT (1859-1942): A small but interesting collection of prints, drawings and paintings conveying the essence of the artist's work...

RAYMOND COXON: Long overdue retrospective for a landscape painter, now over 90, who worked and was friends with most of this century's best British artists...

MOORE & MCGREGOR: Joana McGregor solos in Grieg's Piano Concerto with the LSO under Paul Mehta...

HISTORIC WALKERS: meet Longmarket, Canterbury, 10.30am-2.30pm, £1.20.

CHAUCER'S HIDDEN ALLEYS BEHIND THE OLD GATE: meet Aldgate tube, 11am, £2.

A GHOST WALK - THE HAUNTED CITY: meet St Paul's tube, 7.30pm, £2.25.

RE-ASSESSMENT AND ADMIRATION: A NEW VIEW OF QUEEN VICTORIA: Lecture by Professor S. Weintraub, State University of Pennsylvania...

THE FAMOUS SQUARE MILE - 2000 YEARS OF HISTORY: meet St Paul's tube, 11am, £2.25.

1800s EAST END MURDERS - JACK THE RIPPER: meet Tower Hill tube, 2pm, £2.25.

THEATRE: Jeremy Kingston: Films of G. B. Brown, C. A. J. C. Max Harrison, Opera: Hilary Finch, Rock: David Sinclair, Jazz: Richard Williams, Dance: John Percival, Galleries: David Lee, Walks and Talks: Great Crest '97, Other Events: See listings.

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BOOKINGS

★ SOUTH OF ENGLAND SHOW: Set in one of the prettiest show grounds in the country, a major agricultural and craft show...

★ DEVONPORT FIELD GUN PUBLIC ROYAL: Tonight and every Thursday evening until July 9, an opportunity to see what HMS Drake spokesman describe as a miniature Royal Tournament...

★ MADE IN LONDON FILMS: WR Hay, Moore Marriot and Graham Moffatt in the legendary GM Air Force film 'The Battle of Britain'...

★ CLAWS: A WORK IN PROGRESS: This exhibition features a major work by the artist who has been working on the dinosaur Baryonyx at work on the dinosaur Baryonyx...

★ ALEXANDER PUSHKIN: Last week the exhibition commemorating the 150th anniversary of the death of Russia's greatest poet...

★ COUGHTON COURT CONCERTS: The National Trust Summer Music Festival includes a variety of music, including a variety of music...

★ WIGMORE LUNCHEON CONCERTS: Series of Thursday lunchtime concerts, with Hanson String Quartet, Nicholas Unwin, Jonathan Plowright and Ronn Quast...

★ MISSA SOLEMNIS: London Mozart Players, London Choral Society, and Pro Musica Chorus of London in a performance conducted by Jane Glover, July 7, 7.30pm, £3.50-£10.

★ SOUTH BEACH CONCERTS: meet Longmarket, Canterbury, 10.30am-2.30pm, £1.20.

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Davalle and Jane Rackham

Jumping the gun in fun

CHOICE

Before the election coverage starts in earnest, the puppets of Spitting Image (ITV, 10.00pm) will be giving their own irreverent verdict...



Fleck and Law's Margaret Thatcher (ITV, 10.00pm)

skimpy - that he drank beer with Communists and once made a favourable mention of Tito. But Kimball's fight to clear his name involved a ten-year battle with bureaucracy...

Peter Waymark

BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax AM. 6.55 The Pink Panther Show. Three cartoons (r). 7.00 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough, Jeremy Paxman and James Cox...

ITV/LONDON

- 6.15 TV-am introduced by Caroline Righton and Mike Morris with election update and analysis by Adam Boulton and Debbie Shore. 6.28 and 6.58; news at 6.30 and 7.00; financial news at 6.35; and exercise at 6.55.

BBC2

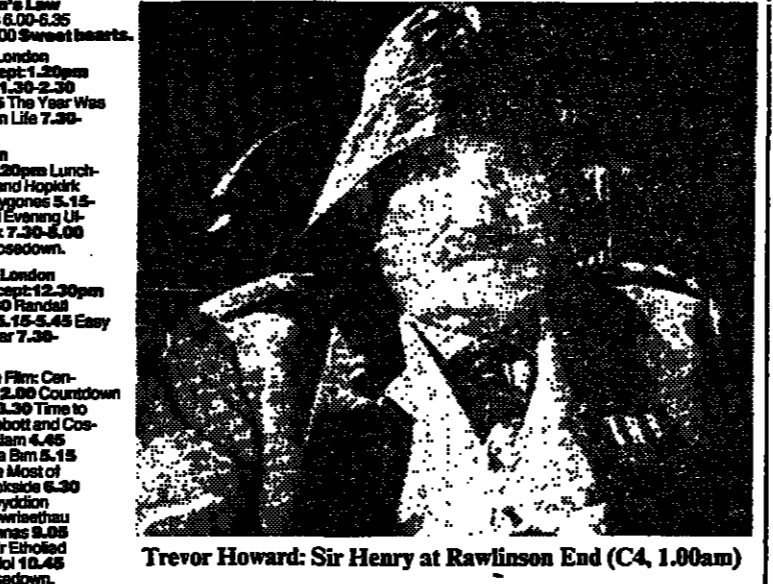
- 6.55 Open University: Force and violence. Ends at 7.20. 9.00 Ceefax. 9.52 Daytime on Two: Routes for bypasses 9.57 Ceefax 11.00 Holiday Afloat 11.18 Celtic 11.40 Keeping dogs as pets 12.12 Nocturny 12.45 A-Level Studies: Biology. 1.05 Quality techniques.

CHANNEL 4

- 2.35 Film: Bud and Lou (1978). Made-for-television 'biggie' about Abbott and Costello. Starring Buddy Hackett and Harvey Korman as the two comedians. Directed by Robert F. Thompson. 4.20 The Emperor's New Clothes. Cartoon of the traditional story. 4.30 Countdown. Jon Marsh meets Steve Haggerty in the first of the quarter-finals.

VARIATIONS

- BBC1 WALES: 5.35pm-6.00pm News Today 5.35-7.00pm Gardening Together SCOTLAND: 10.50pm-11.00pm Domesday 6.35-7.00pm Reporting Scotland 11.00-11.30pm Election 87 with Gerry Watt and John Milne NORTHERN IRELAND: 6.30pm Today's Sport 8.40-9.00pm Inside Ulster 8.35-7.00pm The Romance of Betty Boop 8.30-9.00pm Spoddy's Laugh 8.30pm-9.00pm Regional news magazines.



Trevor Howard: Sir Henry at Rawlinson End (C4, 1.00am)

THE TIMES NATURAL TIMBER SEAT



Due to the popularity of our previous wooden bench offer we are now offering this matching stylish garden seat which is in a class of its own.

Made in Britain from natural Iroko timber, it is extremely hardwearing through all types of weather. The wood needs little attention but may be treated with teak oil as required.

All prices are inclusive of post and packing. Please allow up to 21 days for delivery. If you are not satisfied your money will be refunded without question.

- LF (long wave). (s) Stereo on VHF 5.55 Shipping 6.00 News. Briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day (s) 6.30 Today. Inci 6.30-6.35. 6.35-6.40 News. 6.45 Business News 6.55. 7.55 Weather: Travel 7.00. 8.00 News. 9.05 The Facts. John Wette investigates injustice and sharp practice. 9.30 The Natural History Programme. Fergus Keeling searches Kenya for a glimpse of an African Marie cloud. 10.00 News: Rebels. A profile of Lilie Langtry, one of the most famous women of her generation. Presented by Hugh Sykes (r). 10.30 Morning Story. Brightday by Frank Dunne. The reader is invited to share the author's views on the subject. 11.00 News: Travel: Analysis: No votes in Chile. The failure of civilian politicians to oust General Pinochet for military regime. Presented by Roland Dallas (r). 11.45 Tales of the Loch. Bruce Cameron talks of fishing, wildlife and history of the Isle of Skye, with Christopher Lovell. 12.00 News: You and Yours. Consumer magazine, with John Howard. 12.27 Frank Muir Goes Into... Hate, Frank Muir and Alfred Marks discuss the literary on the subject (r) (s) 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. News from Dr Denis Butler and the BBC's political correspondent Peter Hill. Weather forecast at 12.33-12.43 Shipping Forecast at 12.43-12.45. Ends at 4.00am approx. VHF (available in England and S Wales only) as above except: 5.25-6.00am Weather: Travel 6.05-6.10 For Schools 6.05-6.10 News Together - An Assembly for Schools 9.30 Secondary English: The Post Speeches 9.55 First Steps in Drama 10.15 Something to Think About 10.25 Country Dancing Stage 2 11.00-12.00 For Schools: 11.00 Notaboard 11.05 in the News 11.30 Wavelength 11.55-3.00am For Schools: 1.15 Listening Corner 2.05 The Song Tree 2.20 Living Language 2.40 Make Up Your Mind 3.50-5.55 PM (continues)

Radio 1

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below). News on the half-hour from 9.00 until 8.20pm. Then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight. 5.30am Simon Mayo 7.00 Mike Smith's Breakfast Show 9.30 Simon Bates 10.00 Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve Wright 5.30 Newsbeat 9.45 Bruno Brookes 7.30 Jimca 10.00 The Island 10.30 Story 10.00-12.00 Andy Kershaw. VHF Stereo Radio 2 10.00pm As Radio 1 12.00-5.30 As Radio 2

Radio 3

- 6.55 Open University. Maths Foundation Tutorial. 6.55 Weather 7.00 News. 7.05 Westminster Chorus (Faust ballet music: Bavarian RSO under Sir Colin Davis). Debussy (Trois Symphonies: Francoeur; Gerard Souzay, baritone, with Dalton Baldwin, piano). Granados (El pelele). Goyas (The Island: Larrocha, piano). Vaughan Williams (In the Fan Country). 8.00 News. 8.05 Concerto (Mozart); Schostakovich (Concerto for piano and wind: Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich, with BBC SO under Sir Colin Davis). The origin of fire: Saul Tikkanen, baritone, with Gothenburg SO under Neeme Jarvi). Arnsky (Egyptian Nights suite: USSR RSO under Alexander Alexeyev). 8.00 World Service News. 8.10 Muzak for Pleasure: Andrew Keener presents recorded music. 8.25 Smetana (Bartended Bride overture). Mozart (Violin Concerto No 1). Suk (Symphony No 5). 3.45 Piano Duets by Manchester Composers: John Wilson and Keith Swallow perform serious duets. Includes dance suite Minors, Alan Rawsthorne's The Creel suite, and Norman Cocker's Piano Duets for Winton. 4.15 Bach Cantatas: No 71, Gott ist mein Konig. And cantata No 74, Wer mich liebet, der wird mich hassen. With John Constable (organ). Conductor: Paul Stanzel. 5.00 World Service News. 5.10 Muzak for Pleasure: Andrew Keener presents recorded music. 5.25 Smetana (Bartended Bride overture). Mozart (Violin Concerto No 1). Suk (Symphony No 5). 7.00 Spark to Fire the Engine: the record of John Major's documentaries about the Marshall Plan. The contributors include Werner Abis, Lord Frank's Lord, Kitz, Karl Spengler, Guy Morgan, Golligorski, Robert Marjolin and Lord Lord. (r) 7.30 Concerto: Gothenburg Orchestra, under Kurt Masur. With Oleg Kagan (violin) and Natalia Gutman (cello). Recorded at the 1986 Salzburg Festival. Brahms (Concerto in A minor for violin, cello and orchestra). Bruckner (Symphony No 7). Interval reading at 8.05. 9.20 Book, Music and Lyrics: another of Robert Cushman's programmes about stage musicals. Tonight: First Impressions Music in our Time: Andrius String Quartet, with Gavin Bryars and Charles Furlong (percussion) and Pascal Poney (horn) perform music from Bryars's recent album - Ecologue: String Quartet No 1 (Between the National and the Bristol); and First Viennese Dance. Also, Ecologue. 11.05 Mozart: Divertimento in E flat K 564. Gidon Kremer (violin), Kim Kashkashian (viola), Yo Yo Ma (cello). 11.57 News. 12.00 Election 87: The results as they come in. Presented by Peter Barker. There is election news every half hour. Ends at 4.00 approx.

Radio 2

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1). News on the hour. Sports results up to 8.50. Cricket scoreboard 7.30pm. 4.00am Colin Berry 5.30 Ray Moore 7.30 Derek Jameson 9.30 Ken Bruce 10.00 News. 1.05pm David Jacobs 2.05 Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Adrian Love 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Country Club 8.00 News. 8.15pm (with Leon Evaratts) 8.00 Hit the Boys (Cajun and Tex Mex) 10.00 The News Huddles Live 10.00-12.00 News. 10.30 Story 10.00-12.00 Andy Kershaw. VHF Stereo Radio 2 10.00pm As Radio 1 12.00-5.30 As Radio 2

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newswatch 6.30 Multitrack 2: Top 20 7.00 News 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 News 8.00 News 8.15 News 8.30 News 8.45 News 9.00 News 9.15 News 9.30 News 9.45 News 10.00 News 10.15 News 10.30 News 10.45 News 11.00 News 11.15 News 11.30 News 11.45 News 12.00 News 12.15 News 12.30 News 12.45 News 1.00 News 1.15 News 1.30 News 1.45 News 1.55 News 2.00 News 2.15 News 2.30 News 2.45 News 3.00 News 3.15 News 3.30 News 3.45 News 4.00 News 4.15 News 4.30 News 4.45 News 4.55 News 5.00 News 5.15 News 5.30 News 5.45 News 6.00 News 6.15 News 6.30 News 6.45 News 7.00 News 7.15 News 7.30 News 7.45 News 8.00 News 8.15 News 8.30 News 8.45 News 9.00 News 9.15 News 9.30 News 9.45 News 10.00 News 10.15 News 10.30 News 10.45 News 11.00 News 11.15 News 11.30 News 11.45 News 12.00 News 12.15 News 12.30 News 12.45 News 1.00 News 1.15 News 1.30 News 1.45 News 1.55 News 2.00 News 2.15 News 2.30 News 2.45 News 3.00 News 3.15 News 3.30 News 3.45 News 4.00 News 4.15 News 4.30 News 4.45 News 4.55 News 5.00 News 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News 9.

Men who know the despair and triumph of election days

A decade is a long time in politics

By Peter Davenport

It was not a day for serious political discussion; more an occasion for recalling past achievements and reliving shared memories.

The former Prime Minister, Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, spent the final hours of the general election campaign on a walkabout in his home town of Huddersfield in support of the local Labour candidate; a rare excursion into this campaign.

In his own words, a week may be a long time in politics, but yesterday the years since he last fought a general election seemed hardly any time at all. Certainly the image had changed little; the ever-present pipe and the Gannex coat ensured him instant recognition.

Most of those who stopped to talk were of his own generation, pensioners now, who tended to still call him "Harold" or "Mr Wilson". When he signed his autograph "Wilson of Rievaulx" the recipients looked at it questioningly.

The sense of humour and the fondness for telling political anecdotes was still there; one elderly couple spent five minutes discussing the years when the local football team had experienced greater days.

Lord Wilson pulled out a shiny brown leather wallet and reached inside for a black and white cigarette card photograph of the 1923 Huddersfield Town team. He used to have two of them, he said, but one was ruined "by that Russian, the fathead" who, on

seeing the card, insisted on scrawling his own autograph on the back disfiguring the names of the players.

Who was the Russian? "Khrushchev, of course." Another name from the past league table of political giants.

"They were happy days," the old lady said. "They were when Huddersfield were top of the league," Lord Wilson replied, recalling how in those days a shilling would get him by tram from home to the football ground, pay his admission, buy a programme and still leave him with change. It was not intended as a commentary on the modern economy.

Somebody raised the issue of the outcome of today's election. "It's going to be a very sticky finish," he professed. Asked about the Alliance, he said he called the SDP the PDSA - the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals.

"I trained most of them, you know," he said. "The good doctor, Dr Owen, is very able. I wanted him in the Government, but he didn't like me and it was Roy Jenkins who persuaded him to come in."

He thought Labour's modern leadership "extremely good".

Outside the market hall in the town centre he met Mr George McAllister, who recalled that he sat at the desk next to Lord Wilson when they both attended the New Street council school.



Lord Wilson and a Huddersfield contemporary; memories of champions and shillings (photograph: Barry Wilkinson).

"Ah yes," Lord Wilson said, "now who was that headmaster?"

Someone asked him what he thought the main issue of the campaign had been. He sucked at his pipe for a moment, his eyes twinkling in that old, familiar way and then said: "I think I'd like notice of that question."

However, even for someone who fought five general elections and lost only one and who became a part of Britain's political history there are obvious limits to fame.

"Look," one woman said to her companion as they pushed past the little entourage now gathered around Lord Wilson, "it's Harold, you know, Harold Macmillan."



Mr Edward Heath campaigning yesterday in south London (Photograph: John Manning).

Heath makes his mark on hustings

Mr Edward Heath's 11th general election campaign has, according to Conservative Central Office, been one of his busiest.

"He has left people half his age standing," Mr Tom Jolly, his agent, said last night after reeling off a list of constituencies visited by the former Conservative prime minister.

"He has done as much as I can ever remember, not only in the constituency but in marginals around here and up and down the country."

Mr Heath, aged 70, has given several television and radio interviews and addressed four meetings in his constituency of Old Bexley and Sidcup.

Yesterday he was in Lewisham East where Mr Colin Moyrhan defends a seat he won by 1,909 votes in 1983. He also visited Eltham, Mitcham and Morden, Maidstone and Mid-Kent, where Mr Andrew Rowe, his parliamentary private secretary, is defending a majority of 12,543.

Plans last week to visit Newport in South Wales, Cornwall South-east and Newcastle upon Tyne had to be abandoned because of the strike by air-traffic controllers.

But today he will be visiting polling stations in his constituency to encourage party workers to improve on his majority of 12,718.

And so far he has given no indication that this will be his last campaign.

Campaign sketch

Love-bombed to submission

Television and radio yesterday were like a Moonie induction course, with politicians love-bombing the electorate into submission. No one who watched for any time can have come away without feeling better about himself and his place in the world.

Yesterday, Mrs Thatcher reassured viewers that they were "a lion-hearted nation, ready to confront the 21st century and reach out for greatness again", while Mr Kinnoch told them that they are "as they constantly demonstrate, very good natured".

In the last few weeks, we've been told that we are enterprising, decent, compassionate, far-sighted and brave. One has longed for a mood-breaker to talk of a peevish, lily-livered nation of frauds and moozers who can't even make up their own minds on how to vote. Instead Mr David Steel, a moderate in all matters, said on *The World At One* that we are "not a content society".

On TV-am, political editor Adam Boulton, perhaps still suffering the after-effects of his nice chat with Mr Healey, declared that "the Tories are going to be definitely in my view probably the single largest party".

Over on the BBC, a collection of voters from Basildon was lined up, seemingly in order to chant "something's got to be done" at every question they were asked. Switching back to TV-am, electoral enthusiasm was overwhelming. We were told that "they thought it was great" and that "I didn't believe they could possibly like it any more but they so obviously do". Eight out of ten owners who expressed a preference said that their cat preferred Whiskas.

Mrs Thatcher now addresses television viewers rather as Joyce Grenfell used to address her imaginary school-children. On election call, when a nurse from Mold complained about almost every aspect of the government's handling of the National Health Service, Mrs Thatcher interrupted with "May I say that we're very grateful for everything you do".

Her new, improved, television voice encourages one to believe that at all times she

is narrating a pleasant children's bedtime story. "We have Mr Ariza of Sarbiton on the line," announced Sir Robin Day. "Good morning, Mr Ariza of Sarbiton," said Mrs Thatcher, as if he were as familiar a figure as Mr Bun the Baker.

By this stage, much of what Mrs Thatcher says has a pain-by-numbers feel about it, as old statements are repeated word for word, punctuated only with Good Mornings and May I Say I. Thoroughly Disgraces.

But in the war of repetition, Mrs Thatcher has outdone Mr Kinnoch, who has varied the wording of his platitudes too much. It is hard now for anyone not to take as a self-evident truth the fact that the nuclear deterrent has kept peace in Europe for 40 years, when the evidence is purely speculative.

In "The Radio Four Generation", Nick Ross was asking first-time voters about the issues that concern them. Two-thirds believed that there would be three million or more unemployed in 20 years and only one in ten believed that Britain was still a great nation. Whenever voters are asked to answer their prurient questions, within a few minutes, Ross was asking "hands up who's never had any homosexual contact of any form at all?" And "does anyone here admit to being a virgin?"

Mr Kinnoch appeared on the six o'clock news telling a reporter that his policy in front of camera crews was always to "act natural", not stopping to think that even a normal man to continually brandish his fists in public shout at the top of his voice, ask intrusive questions of diligent factory workers and kiss 125 strange babies in the space of three weeks, the authorities would not consider him to be acting natural.

Mrs Thatcher, on the other hand, was pictured with disabled old age pensioners, to show, said the presenter, "the caring side of Conservatism". They played bingo, they told her. Was it fun? she asked. Today she will be telling us that we are a nation of warm-hearted bingo lovers, no doubt.

Craig Brown

Protest as French win ferry order

Continued from page 1
Trade and Industry, protested to the EEC.

Yesterday Mr Shaw said he was "dismayed and disappointed" about the outcome of the order.

Now the the dispute threatens to escalate as the EEC has demanded details of the findings of the order from all the parties concerned. The EEC inquiry will not hold up the

start of building and the French company has told Brittany Ferries that the Bretagne will be able to go into service in spring 1989.

Yesterday British Shipbuilders, which owns the Govan yard, merely said the loss of the order was regretted. But privately, officials said the episode demonstrated that any country which wanted to protect its shipbuilders could do so.

One official said the loss of a refitting contract on the QE2 to a German yard was a severe blow but the Government's over-concern about EEC regulations had dealt also been a severe blow to Govan Shipbuilders.

He said: "There is no doubt at all that the French will produce papers for the EEC inquiry which will be technically perfect and will satisfy

all those who want to be satisfied.

"But the whole spirit of the regulations and business dealing has been breached and everyone knows it."

Mr Eric Mackie, managing director of Govan Shipbuilders, said he believed the French yard had been given the contract as a result of a subsidy from the French government that breached EEC rules.

Where no money can change hands

Continued from page 1
now under way to detect the long-term cancer risks to those living in the 18-mile zone at the time of the explosion.

A few hundred yards away workers were this week building a new secondary school for 370 pupils which it is hoped to have complete before the evacuees begin their second winter in their new environment.

"Of course I am grateful to

the authorities for the way they have treated us," Mrs Anna Romanchenko, aged 60, said. She lives in a new three-roomed house with her tractor-driver husband and their daughter after spending nearly five months billeted with another family. "But we all dream of going back home, the land there was so rich and good."

Mrs Romanchenko told me

she had left most of her belongings in the village of Zilecia, which I had seen only a day earlier on my way to Chernobyl.

She and other residents were desperately anxious for news of their homes, which they have not seen since May 4 1986.

I explained that most were now overgrown and barricaded from the main road because of

the continuing risk of contamination.

A collective farm labourer from the same village, sitting with his family listening to Italian pop music on the car radio.

"You have to understand that, although this new village is all right, that was my fatherland, our true home; we will never stop wanting to go back," he said with tears in his eyes.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,380

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

- ACROSS**
- Verse found in a barrel (5).
 - Bird has a fish - one named archy (9).
 - An extremely tricky feat (5,4).
 - Farm includes Western material (5).
 - Cast the end line (5).
 - This diamond in 13 makes a shiny top dressing (9).
 - "And not by windows only... comes in the light" (Cough) (7).
 - Runyon's back. I note, after wandering (7).
 - Said but not guaranteed to be placed in part of the wind section (7).
 - Source of some rumblings? Terribly bad sign (7).
 - Carrier's extra-terrestrial form of US transport (9).
 - Critical report heard of stage entertainment (5).
 - Chemical compound or 13 without a name (5).
 - Pacific flier lower than the eagle (9).
 - This passage, one of the sought-after New World openings (5-4).
 - Concerning a writer's work requiring much paper (5).
- DOWN**
- Building plot inspector said to be a tourist (9).
 - Robin in song making an audible challenge (5).
 - Emerald town development - financial backing for college perhaps (9).
 - Son of Sycorax, put a party member in prison (7).
 - Flower poet (7).
 - Jack's up getting the Spanish honey-bugger (5).
 - Judicial decision to divert Maud via New Zealand shortly (9).
 - Army captures trainee composer (5).
 - Film extra? Leading light? Couldn't outshine this one (9).
 - Two doctors, one embracing the muse of a leading Presbyterian (9).
 - Agreement to study the head count say (9).
 - Make announcement of French head of Cambridge College (7).
 - Circus performer. Roy MacGregor devoured by a feline (7).
 - Gertrude's beer mug (5).
 - Cent of Ptolemaic revolution (5).
 - Played by one on stage or in the orchestra pit? (5).
- * Concise crossword, page 8

WEATHER

Low pressure near by will maintain the cool, showery weather. The best of the day's weather is likely in the north-west and some western parts, where there will be sunny intervals and only scattered showers. Southern areas will see more frequent and sometimes heavy showers, with the risk of thunder, although there will be a little sunshine as well. It will be rather cool in all areas but especially near north-east coasts, where it will be mostly cloudy with showers. Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Continuing cool and showery, the heaviest and most frequent showers in the south-east. Some sunshine is also expected, especially in the west.

ABROAD

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Algeria	23	7	C
Amman	22	7	C
Beirut	22	7	C
Bombay	28	10	C
Buenos Aires	18	10	C
Calcutta	28	10	C
Cairo	28	10	C
Colombo	28	10	C
Hong Kong	28	10	C
London	15	10	C
Los Angeles	18	10	C
Manila	28	10	C
Medan	28	10	C
Perth	18	10	C
Rangoon	28	10	C
Singapore	28	10	C
Tokyo	22	10	C
Yokohama	22	10	C

AROUND BRITAIN

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
London	15	10	C
Manchester	15	10	C
Edinburgh	15	10	C
Belfast	15	10	C
Cardiff	15	10	C
Sheff	15	10	C
Nottingham	15	10	C
Leeds	15	10	C
Birmingham	15	10	C
Coventry	15	10	C
Sheff	15	10	C
Nottingham	15	10	C
Leeds	15	10	C
Birmingham	15	10	C
Coventry	15	10	C

HIGH TIDES

City	Time	Height
London	12:00	6.5
Manchester	12:00	6.5
Edinburgh	12:00	6.5
Belfast	12:00	6.5
Cardiff	12:00	6.5
Sheff	12:00	6.5
Nottingham	12:00	6.5
Leeds	12:00	6.5
Birmingham	12:00	6.5
Coventry	12:00	6.5

THE POUND

Country	Rate
Australia	2.10
Canada	1.50
Denmark	1.30
France	6.50
Germany	2.30
Italy	1.30
Japan	160
Netherlands	2.20
Norway	4.80
Spain	165
Sweden	4.80
Switzerland	2.50
USA	1.50
Yugoslavia	1.60

SOLUTION TO PUZZLE NO 17,379

CALIFORNIA CONFESSION
MISQUOTES SUMMY
RESIDE PARENTAL
CALIFORNIA CONFESSION
MISQUOTES SUMMY
RESIDE PARENTAL
CALIFORNIA CONFESSION
MISQUOTES SUMMY
RESIDE PARENTAL

AM

PM

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 9:47 pm to 4:14 am
Bristol 9:56 pm to 4:23 am
Edinburgh 10:27 pm to 3:57 am
Manchester 10:07 pm to 4:10 am
Penzance 10:01 pm to 4:42 am

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 5 am to 6 pm, 15C (59F); min 6 pm to 8 pm, 7C (45F); Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.01in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 4.0hr.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c. coast; f. air; s. sun.

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Belfast	10	5	C
Birmingham	14	5	C
Blackpool	13	5	C
Bristol	14	5	C
Cardiff	14	5	C
Edinburgh	14	5	C
Glasgow	14	5	C

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 6 pm, 17 (63F); min 6 pm to 8 pm, 8C (46F); Humidity: 6 pm, 50 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 8.2hr. Bar. mean sea level: 6 pm, 1007.0 millibars, falling. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday's highest day temp: Sandown, Isle of Wight, 16C (61F); lowest day max: Fraserburgh, Grampian, 9C (48F); highest rainfall: Southend, Essex, 0.7in; highest sunshine: Troa, Haidaris, 14.1hr.

NOON TODAY

Information supplied by London Weather Centre

PART 2

THE TUESDAY JOURNAL

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

30 Shares

100

THE POUND

Bid denial by Sound Diffusion

Colloids rises

Option record

BICC deal

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

PRICE CHANGES

BEST RATES

A blue of t

...bombed to
...mission

THURSDAY JUNE 11 1987

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1752.2 (-9.1)
FT-SE 100
2256.1 (-9.1)
Bargains
52856 (50389)
USM (Datastream)
180.8 (+0.05)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6575 (-0.0005)
W German mark
2.9769 (+0.0041)
Trade-weighted
73.2 (-0.1)

Bid denial
by Sound
Diffusion

Sound Diffusion, the electrical equipment leasing group, denied it was discussing the possibility of being taken over, and Mr Paul Stonor, chairman, refuted suggestions he had arranged to sell his shares.

"The recent rumours should be regarded as total fantasy," said Mr Stonor in an official statement to the Stock Exchange. Earlier in the day Sound Diffusion shares had risen 8p to 71p.

Colloids rises

Allied Colloids, the specialist chemicals manufacturer, lifted pretax profits from £19.54 million to £29.21 million in the year to end-March, on a turnover up from £119.8 million to £142.8 million. A 2.75p final dividend makes 3.75p for the year against 2.5p last time.

Option record

Record volumes for traded options on the London Stock Exchange were achieved in May with an average 62,543 contracts a day more than 9,000 contracts higher than the previous best in February. A Prudential Corporation shares option will be introduced on June 25.

BICC deal

BICC, the international cables, construction and components group, has signed a letter of intent with Cable Corporation, the US power cable producer, to take a 45 per cent stake in Cablec.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

Table with columns for Stock Market, Recent Issues, and Closing prices. Includes entries for New York, Tokyo, Nikkei Dow, Hang Seng, etc.

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Table listing price changes for various companies and sectors like RMC Group, Costain Group, etc.

INTEREST RATES

Table showing interest rates for London, 3-month interbank, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table showing exchange rates for London, New York, etc.

GOLD

Table showing gold prices for London, New York, etc.

NORTH SEA OIL

Table showing oil prices for Brent (July), etc.

Stock Market 26 Money Mkts 28
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Venice call for freer trade

Summit concerned over protectionism

From David Smith, Economics Correspondent, Venice

The seven leading industrial countries yesterday committed themselves to preserving the present pattern of exchange rates, pledged action against protectionism which they viewed with "grave concern", and called for a market-led reduction in interest rates worldwide.

The summit declaration, presented by the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Amintore Fanfani, came after two and a half days of discussions in Venice. Britain was represented by the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, on the final day of the summit.

"It has been a very businesslike and successful summit," he said. The summit declaration also promised changes in agricultural policies in order to reduce farm surpluses, pledged a general capital increase for the World Bank, action on a special debt package for sub-Saharan Africa within this year and measures to create jobs through structural change in the main economies.

There was little last minute wrangling among the seven - the United States, Britain, West Germany, Japan, France, Italy and Canada - which reflected discussions on the world economy which were free of rancour. There was little evidence that the big surplus countries, Japan and West Germany, came under pressure to take further expansionary fiscal action even though, as the summit declaration recognises, world growth has slowed this year.

The summit seven said that



Antony Pilkington: effects of restructuring are now evident

Pilkington doubles profits to £256m

By Carol Ferguson

Pilkington stunned the market yesterday with pretax profits more than doubled to £256 million and well ahead of its own £250 million forecast made last January during its defence against BTR's bid. It would have beaten the forecast by another £8 million had it not been for adverse movements in exchange rates since the forecast was made.

Group turnover broke through £2 billion for the first time, rising by 59 per cent to £2.1 billion. Earnings per share jumped to 73.1p, a 3.3 times improvement.

Shareholders will participate in the bonanza. They have been awarded a 63 per cent increase in their dividend to 22p net, with the option to take a scrip alternative.

The group revealed that extraordinary items of £31.8 million included £9.4 million incurred in successfully warding off BTR's unwelcome bid.

The rest of the extraordinary charge was costs incurred in cessation of operations and losses on the disposal of investments.

The chairman, Mr Antony Pilkington, said that the beneficial effects of restructuring were now evident in the group's trading results.

Flat and safety glass profits

Gilts dealers ready to burn midnight oil

By Richard Thomson and Cliff Feltham

More than a quarter of the 27 gilt-edged market-making firms in London plan to stay open for trading tonight with experts predicting most investors will focus on the gilt and foreign exchange market during the small hours, rather than on equities.

A number of stockbroking firms, however, were organising teams of equity dealers to remain at their desks or at home ready to deal with clients, while a leading foreign exchange dealer was also keeping an all-night vigil.

It will be the first time gilts have operated around the clock, reflecting the way the market has become more international since the last election in 1983.

It will also be served by inter-dealer brokers who have agreed with market-makers to stay in operation until midnight. The IDBs, which handle half the market's turnover, match bargains between market-makers and maintain up-to-date price screens to which dealers have access.

Most gilts market-makers do not believe there is enough interest from domestic investors to stay open for overnight dealing. Those who will be operating, however, believe there may be significant interest from overseas, particularly the Japanese.

Greenwell Montagu, Mercury Securities, Salomon Brothers International, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, Credit Suisse First Boston and Chase Manhattan Securities will be among those working overnight.

Nearly all broking firms were planning an early start, with dealers under orders to be at their desks no later than 7am - when the Stock Exchange computerized dealing system (SEAQ) opens. 30 minutes earlier than usual.

The Stock Exchange said: "The system normally closes at 6pm but it could very well be extended on Friday if the demand is great." The traded options market is also due to open one hour earlier on Friday for all contracts except the FT-SE 100.

Brokers Phillips & Drew said it had no plans to ask staff to stay overnight but wanted everyone in early on Friday.

Dealers expect considerable interest from Japanese investors, and some from the US, if the Conservatives look like winning a sizeable majority.

British Land value soars 81%

By Our City Staff

British Land, which after a spate of acquisitions is now engaged in property developments valued at £1 billion in central London, yesterday reported that its net worth had jumped by 81.5 per cent to £551.5 million in the year to the end of March. This is equivalent to a rise from a 202p to 271p a share.

Pretax profits reached £30.1 million against £21.1 million and the year's total dividend is increased by 0.5p to 3.5p a share. Mr John Riblat, the chairman, says British Land should make further extensive progress and that, after the recent vendor placing of 63.2 million shares, the group was well funded to continue its core activities of developing, investing and trading.

Gross assets expanded by £372.6 million to top the £1 billion mark, and net rental income was £6.7 million higher at £28.2 million. If current market rents were applied now, the present rental income would increase by more than 27 per cent during the next three years. The shares rose by 11p to 262p.

Tempus, page 26

Ambitious bid for JWT

By John Bell, City Editor

Mr Martin Sorrell's media services group, WPP, yesterday launched a highly ambitious move to acquire one of the giants of the international advertising business, JWT Group. The much larger US based group takes in the J Walter Thompson advertising agency operations and Hill & Knowlton, the world's biggest public relations agency.

City men last night described the proposal as one of the most aggressive to be made by a British public company for many years.

WPP, formed only two years ago from the tiny manufacturing group Wire and Plastic Products, is proposing to

The proposal was delivered to Mr Don Johnston, JWT's chief executive officer, at 7am New York time yesterday with

a request to reply by 4pm today. The move is cleverly timed to take advantage of troubles at JWT. The group millic a \$1 million (£1.8 million) loss in the first quarter and there have been many departures at senior level.

This giant step for WPP has been strongly supported by institutional backers. More than 300 have agreed to underwrite the issue on an unusual performance-related basis. The underwriters will receive a commission of 1/2 per cent of the planned tender offer for JWT falls and 2 1/2 per cent if it succeeds. WPP's share price rose yesterday from 1.085p to 1.125p.

Brit who shook Madison Avenue

Martin Sorrell learns fast. As finance director of Saatchi & Saatchi he watched the two brothers build their advertising agency into the world's biggest. Just two years ago he started on his own and yesterday launched a bid to become number four in the global advertising league with a £277 million takeover offer for the J Walter Thompson empire.

The news broke like a bombshell in Madison Avenue, the centre of New York's high-powered advertising world. "Martin who...?" was the unbelieving reaction of one veteran.

Sorrell, aged 41, has become one of the fastest rising stars on the British advertising scene. His reputation is based on a rapid-fire string of takeovers

real job worked with Mark McCormack's sports and personal management agency. The supermarket chief Mr James Gulliver hired Sorrell as his personal assistant and he is remembered for the abrasive style he adopted.

At Saatchi & Saatchi, he played a crucial role in the financial management and expansion of the group. But Sorrell always had ideas for founding his own show. The vehicle he chose was an unlikely one, the Kent manufacturing group Wire and Plastic Products.

The City nodded politely when Sorrell said he planned to build his fledgling group into a major multinational service company. Two years later it looks to be just a question of time before he delivers on his promise.

Did this indicate a concern that he would need a home for his money in the event of a Labour victory? No such disloyalty was involved. He was, he said, concerned about the ramifications of Third World debt, and a possible crumbling of the US economy.

photograph of their candidate in his front window. "I told them that with the greatest of respect, I would have to decline," he tells me, adding: "I couldn't believe it - ours was the only house in the road affected by the boundary changes." Mrs Thatcher will nevertheless be getting Berry's vote today. "I will be voting for the party," he says.

Romantic
The Reagans have obviously had their fill of European history and architecture. They prefer, it seems, to watch movies in their room, for packed in their luggage for the economic summit in Venice last weekend was a video of a film starring their old Hollywood pal John Wayne, *Angel and the Badman*. Nancy and Ron have seen the film many times before but this time it was different - the old black and white movie has been "colorized". At last they had one new experience on the trip.

Plan changed by Wordplex

After criticism of its planned capital reconstruction, the Wordplex Information Systems computer company yesterday modified its proposals. But it failed to win the approval of Chase Manhattan Securities, the clients of which have about 20 per cent of the shares.

Chase continues to support the £14.7 million hostile bid, launched on Monday by Apricot.

Institutions which were to have participated in the placing of shares in Wordplex have now agreed to offer 50 per cent of their entitlement to shareholders.

This would reduce the controversial dilution of shareholders' interests from 25 to 12.5 per cent.

Kremlin blues

The latest issue of *The Director*, the Institute of Directors' glossy mag, has chosen a good week to come out with a bright red cover complete with colour photograph of the Kremlin and, inside, a picture of our own Iron Lady in a suit of armour. But no, the organization - once dubbed by the CBI "a bunch of laundrette owners" - has not selected general election week to change allegiances. It is part of the IoD's drive to persuade its members to export more to Soviet bloc nations. They are not, intones the IoD, all the same; the differences between Hungary and Romania can be as wide as those between the UK and Eire. Or Guinness and Argyll.

● If you fail to get Tie Rack shares, all is not lost. In a gesture which can only win the group more friends, unsuccessful applicants will receive a £1 Tie Rack voucher.

Carol Leonard

Tie Rack attracts over £1bn

By Colin Campbell

The Tie Rack share issue has left a number of stock exchange records standing. More than £1 billion was subscribed for a company which only sought £12.47 million of fresh capital.

There were 315,000 applications for 728 million shares when only 8.6 million shares were being offered, making the offer 83.7 times oversubscribed. There will be a ballot.

Public interest in the issue follows the recent success of Sock Shop.

Applications from the public have been allocated on the following basis: applications for 500 shares - ballot for 200 shares; 1,000 shares - ballot for 400 shares; 2,000 to 5,000 shares - weighted ballot for 500 shares; 6,000 to 10,000 shares - weighted ballot for 800 shares; 20,000 to 50,000 shares - weighted ballot for 1,500 shares; 100,000 to 200,000 shares - weighted ballot for 2,000 shares.

Those who applied for 250,000 shares and more will receive 1.1 per cent.

Tie Rack makes its stock market debut on Tuesday.

Tempus, page 26

A true blue man of taste

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Labour's golden boy

A colleague was surprised to find himself being quizzed by a senior backroom boy from the Labour Party on the merits of gold as a hedge. How could he get in, he asked, given that South African gold shares and Krugerrands were out of bounds? Hedge against what?

Did this indicate a concern that he would need a home for his money in the event of a Labour victory? No such disloyalty was involved. He was, he said, concerned about the ramifications of Third World debt, and a possible crumbling of the US economy.

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A taxing problem for Labour

Labour's problems over its tax plans during the past week have, in many ways, perfectly illustrated the strengths and weaknesses of the whole Labour campaign. When delivering a simple and emotive message it has been highly effective. But as the details of proposals have been probed the whole edifice has crumbled away.

If Labour had been allowed to stick to its manifesto it might have been all right. The manifesto includes a simple package of benefit increases to be paid for by reversing the tax cuts received since 1979 by the richest 5 per cent. Exactly how this was to be done is not spelt out, but on other occasions Labour spokesmen have indicated that half would be recouped by raising capital taxes - presumably a gaudy increase in the indexation of capital gains tax and reverting to a tax on lifetime gifts - and half from increases in the higher rates of income tax.

The manifesto also contains a pledge to bring forward a wealth tax which was shown to be unworkable by a select committee set up by the last Labour government.

Those who have benefited from tax cuts under the present Government are defined by Labour as those on earnings above £25,000 - or for campaigning purposes £26,000 or £300 a week. But even here Labour seems to be confused because, although it talks about reversing the tax cuts received by the better off, Mr Hattersley has made clear that he would not want to return to the top rates of up to 98 per cent. To raise the same amount of money, therefore, high rates would presumably have to come further down the income scale, more than reversing for some people any cuts they received under the Conservatives.

The simple logic of a £3.6 billion anti-poverty package financed by £3.6 billion recovered from the rich was upset more fundamentally by the promise to reverse the 2p cut in income tax in the Budget. This enables Labour to keep its proposed increase in borrowing to fund the jobs package to a relatively modest £3 billion. But it destroys the claim that no one apart from the rich would lose out from Labour's tax plans.

There are two significant changes which the manifesto does not contain but which the party is nevertheless committed to: an extension of National Insurance contributions further up the income scale and a switch from the present system of taxation on married couples as one unit to mandatory separate taxation.

At present employees do not pay National Insurance contributions on income above the upper earnings limit which is currently £1,955 a week, or £15,340 a year. Labour proposes that the upper limit should be removed so that contributions would be levied at the present 9 per cent that would be a very large extra burden on better-off earners - nearly £1,000 for those earning £26,000.

Labour has retreated into saying that it would graduate payments above the present upper earnings limit. But there is no logic in this. Either the are what they are intended to be - insurance premiums paid for a defined set of benefits - or they are simply part of the tax system. If they are the latter why should they be paid only on earned income when should the rate fall above £15,340?

The proposals on separate taxation are even more of a shambles. Switching to separate taxation without creating losers on a massive scale is very expensive.

Under Labour, families with children would have some offset from the increases in child benefit - the proposed increase for the first child of £7.36 a week is precisely the value of the married allowance at 1984-87 rates. But increasing the value of the single allowance sufficiently to offset the withdrawal of the married, as Mr Kinnoch has indicated might be attempted, would be extremely costly because the increase in the single allowance would benefit everyone.

To help solve the problem, new ideas have appeared and disappeared in the last few days with alarming frequency. One day Labour was going to introduce a new benefit for the older woman whose children had grown up. The next a reduced rate band was to be reintroduced.

The Tories have also had their reverses over tax policy. Mrs Thatcher has been forced to pledge not to extend VAT to food, water, electricity and children's clothing. But if the Tories win today there is still much scope left for making greater economic sense out of our present tax regime.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

The London Fox joins the dealers

By Colin Narborough

The London Commodity Exchange yesterday revealed its new name - the London Futures and Options Exchange, or London Fox.

Mr Saxon Tate, the exchange chairman, said the new symbol - a russet fox - represented the bold fast-moving spirit of the exchange. The name described accurately its true business.

Transformation of the exchange's identity comes two weeks after it moved to purpose-built premises at St Katherine Docks, near to the Tower of London.

The highly successful move to Commodity Quay, undertaken with the International Petroleum Exchange, was aimed at putting London's futures trading in cocoa, sugar, coffee and oil under one roof, as part of a bid to maintain the exchange's position in increasingly competitive world markets.



Saxon Tate, chairman, outside the new exchange building

Mr Tate said there were good reasons for the new name and logo. The LCE was no longer a trade association run by committees only for their own contract, it now housed the world's best-equipped international dealing centres, and was embarking on an ambitious programme of expansion.

"Locals" - individual members trading on their own account - were being introduced, as was traded option dealing, and a campaign to boost London's market share.

The Fox logo was agreed on after a six month survey conducted by Wolff Olins, a corporate identity company.

Electra assets grow by 30%

Electra Investment Trust, which specializes in investing in unquoted companies, reports a 30.65 per cent increase in net assets for the year to end-March. Net assets reached £396 million, compared with £293 million last time.

Fully-diluted net assets per share rose to 247.35p against 189.32p. At the end of last month, the fully diluted net asset value per share had risen to 256.30p. Electra's share price rose by 8p to 214p.

Electra is switching its year-end to September 30 so yesterday's figures are the second in an 18 month period. Earnings per share were up by 15.76 per cent to 5.3p and the trust is paying a dividend of 2.4p, making 4.4p for the 12 months, against 4.1p for 1986.

Venice: the final communiqué

Text of the final communiqué from the Venice summit:

Introduction:
1. We, the heads of state or government of the seven major industrialized countries and the representatives of the European Community, have met in Venice from 8 to 10 June, 1987, to review the progress that our countries have made, individually and collectively in carrying out the policies to which we committed ourselves at earlier summits.

We remain determined to pursue these policies for growth, stability, employment and prosperity for our own countries and for the world economy.

2. We can look back on a number of positive developments since we met a year ago. Growth is continuing into its fifth consecutive year, albeit at lower rates. Average inflation rates have generally declined. Changes have occurred in relationships among leading currencies, which over time will contribute to a more sustainable pattern of current account positions and have brought exchange rates within ranges broadly consistent with economic fundamentals. In volume terms, the adjustment of trade flows is under way, although in nominal terms imbalances so far remain too large.

Macroeconomic policies and exchange rates:

3. Since Tokyo, the summit countries have intensified their economic policy co-ordination with a view to ensuring internal consistency of domestic policies and their international compatibility. This is essential to achieving stronger and sustained global growth, reduced external imbalances and more stable exchange relationships.

Given the policy agreements reached at the Louvre and in Washington, further substantial shifts in the exchange rates could prove counter-productive to efforts to increase growth and facilitate adjustment. We reaffirm our commitment to the swift and full implementation of these agreements.

4. We now need to overcome the problems that nevertheless remain in some of our countries: external imbalances that are still large; persistently high unemployment; large public sector deficits and high levels of real interest rates. There are also continuing trade restrictions and increased protectionist pressures, persistent weakness of many primary commodity markets, and reduced prospects for developing countries to grow, find the markets they need and service their foreign debt.

5. The correction of external imbalances will be a long and difficult process. Exchange rates alone will not solve the problem of correcting these imbalances while sustaining growth. Surplus countries will design their policies to strengthen domestic demand and reduce external surpluses, while maintaining price stability. Deficit countries, while following growth policies designed to encourage steady low-inflation growth, will reduce their fiscal and external imbalances.

6. We call on other industrial countries to participate in the effort to sustain economic activity worldwide. We also call on newly-industrialized economies with rapid growth and large external surpluses to assume greater responsibility for preserving an open world trading system by reducing trade barriers and pursuing policies that allow their currencies more fully to reflect underlying fundamentals.

7. Among the summit countries, budgetary discipline remains an important medium-term objective and the reduction of existing public sector imbalances a necessary for a number of them.

Those summit countries which have made significant progress in fiscal consolidation and children's clothing. But if the Tories win today there is still much scope left for making greater economic sense out of our present tax regime.

and foster stability of exchange rates. In view of the outlook for low inflation in many countries, a further market-led decline of interest rates would be helpful.

Structural policies:
8. We also agree on the need for effective structural policies especially for creating jobs. To this end we shall:
● Promote competition in order to speed up industrial adjustment.
● Reduce major imbalances between agricultural supply and demand.
● Facilitate job creating investment incentives and improve the functioning of labour markets.
● Promote the further opening of internal markets.
● Encourage the elimination of capital market imperfections and restrictions and the improvement of the functioning of internal financial markets.

Multilateral surveillance policy co-ordination:

9. We warmly welcome the progress achieved by the Group of Seven finance ministers in developing and implementing strengthened arrangements for multilateral surveillance and economic co-ordination as called for in Tokyo last year. The new process of co-ordination, involving the use of economic indicators, will enhance efforts to achieve more consistent and mutually compatible policies by our countries.

10. The heads of state or government reaffirmed the important policy commitments and undertakings made at the Louvre and Washington meetings of the Group of Seven, including those relating to exchange rates. They agreed that, if in the future world economic growth is insufficient, additional actions will be required to achieve their common objectives. Accordingly, they call on their finance ministers to develop, if necessary, additional appropriate policy measures for this purpose and to continue to cooperate closely to foster stability of exchange rates.

11. The co-ordination of economic policies is an ongoing process which will evolve and become more effective over time. The heads of state or government endorsed the understandings reached by the Group of Seven finance ministers to strengthen, with the assistance of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the surveillance of their economies using economic indicators including exchange rates, in particular by:
● The commitment by each country to develop medium-term objectives and projections for its economy, and for the group to develop objectives and projections, that are mutually consistent both individually and collectively.
● The use of the performance indicators to review and assess current economic trends and to determine whether there are significant deviations from an intended course that require consideration of remedial actions.

12. The heads of state or government consider these measures important steps towards promoting sustained non-inflationary global growth and greater currency stability. They call upon the Group of Seven finance ministers and central bank governors to:
● Intensify their co-ordination efforts with a view to achieving prompt and effective implementation of the agreed policy undertakings and commitments.
● Monitor economic developments closely in cooperation with the managing director of the IMF.
● Consider the further improvements as appropriate to make the co-ordination process more effective.

Trade:

13. We note the rising protectionist pressures with growing concern. The Uruguay round can play an important role in maintaining and strengthening the multilateral trading system and achieving increased liberalization of trade for the benefit of the inter-relationships among growth, trade and development. It is essential to improve the multilateral system

based on the principles and rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and bring about a wider coverage of world trade under agreed, effective and enforceable multilateral discipline. Protectionist actions would be counter-productive, would increase the risk of further exchange rate instability and would exacerbate the problems of development and indebtedness.

14. We endorse fully the commitment to adopt appropriate measures in compliance with principles of stand-still and rollback which have been reaffirmed in the ministerial declaration on the Uruguay round. It is important to establish the GATT multilateral framework of principles and rules for trade in services, trade-related investment measures and intellectual property rights. This extension of the multilateral trading system would also be beneficial to developing countries in the areas of enhancing trade, investment and technology transfers.

15. Basing ourselves on the ministerial declaration on all the Uruguay rounds and on the principles of stand-still and rollback, we call on all the contracting parties to negotiate comprehensively, in good faith and with all due despatch, with a view to ensuring mutual advantage and increased benefits to all participants. Canada, Japan, and the United States and the European Community will table a wide range of substantive proposals in Geneva over the coming months. Progress in the Uruguay round will be kept under constant political review. In this context the launching, the conduct and the implementation of the outcome of the negotiations should be treated as parts of a single undertaking. However, agreements reached at an early stage might be implemented on a provisional or definitive basis by agreement prior to the formal conclusion of the negotiations, and should be taken into account in assessing the overall balance of the negotiations.

16. A strong, credible, working GATT is essential to the well-being of all trading countries and is the best bulwark against mounting bilateral protectionist pressures. The functioning of the GATT should be improved through enhancing its role in maintaining an open multilateral system and its ability to manage disputes; and through ensuring better coordination between the GATT and the IMF and the World Bank. We consider that it would be useful to have, as appropriate, in the course of negotiations, a meeting of the trade negotiating committee at the ministerial level.

Agriculture:

17. At Tokyo we recognized the serious nature of the agricultural problem. We agreed that the structure of agricultural production and demand for the main agricultural products, the growth imbalances in supply and demand for the main agricultural products, the acknowledgement of shared responsibility for the problems as well as for their equitable, effective, and durable resolution, the principles of reform and the action required. The long-term objective is to allow market signals to influence the orientation of agricultural

18. We reaffirm our commitment to the important agreement on agriculture set out in the OECD ministerial communiqué of May 13 1987; in particular, the statement of the scope and urgency of the problem which requires a concerted reform of agricultural policies be implemented in a balanced and flexible manner. The assessment of the grave implications, for developed and developing countries alike, of the growth imbalances in supply and demand for the main agricultural products; the acknowledgement of shared responsibility for the problems as well as for their equitable, effective, and durable resolution; the principles of reform and the action required. The long-term objective is to allow market signals to influence the orientation of agricultural

Hazlewood in surprise £52m issue

By Joe Joseph

Hazlewood Foods announced yesterday that it was raising about £52.7 million net through a one-for-six rights issue at 210p a share.

The news slightly surprised analysts who had the impression from Hazlewood's results, announced on Monday, that the rapidly growing company was reasonably comfortable with its gearing of 53 per cent.

Analysts were yesterday puzzling over why details of the rights issue were not disclosed with the results, which showed pretax profits up 68 per cent to £18.65 million.

Mr Dennis Jones, Hazlewood's finance director, said yesterday: "We did not decide to go ahead with the rights issue until last night."

The cash raised should relieve Hazlewood of its current debts of approximately £25 million and leave it with almost as much again, for fresh purchases.

But Mr Jones said the company is not on the brink of a major acquisition. It will continue its strategy of the past few years of vacuuming up small companies earning pretax profits of between £0.3 million to £1.5 million, and mostly involved in the salads, confectionery and snacks markets.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet Secular turning point or market disaster

The City believes that Mrs Thatcher will be re-elected for a third term. The rest of the financial world cannot believe that the British electorate is mad enough to turn away from policies which, though they have had some harsh side-effects, are the best, the only, hope of restoring vigour, vitality and esteem to a slothful and backward-looking economy and generating the wealth on which national welfare and well-being depend. The promise of low inflation, declining interest rates and sustained, profitable growth within a stable political environment would confirm Britain's new status as an economic power.

Should the Conservatives not win today's election, the City's dealers and market-makers will feel like the American editor who rushed out the headline "Dewey Wins" just as President Harry Truman was declared re-elected. Their embarrassment would be matched by their losses. Equity market-makers would mark prices down sharply, speculators would try to recoup some of their losses through short-selling. In the short-term, at least, the 100 share index could easily fall by 200-300 points. In the medium and longer term, the attractions of ordinary shares would vary, though we would have seen the end of the great bull market.

In the gilt-edged market the carnage could be greater, since dealers have been picking up the stock the Government issued in May to sell to eager Japanese and other foreign investors once the election is over. There would be no early, nor indeed later, cuts in bank base rates; sterling would come under intense pressure; and yields would rise, both in anticipation of rising inflation and to set the premium the market would expect in return for buying Labour's gilt-edged stock.

That much is certain. Forecasting what would happen to security prices in the event of the expected Tory victory is much more problematical. Share prices are probably discounting an overall Conservative majority of between 30 and 50 seats. Prices would be marked-up tonight without waiting for the markets to open tomorrow, the extent depending on the majority. But what happens then?

Again, the key will be the pound. Dealers will not be manning their desks all night in the expectation that nothing will happen. There would some buying, especially of gilt-edged, from the Far East. This may not affect prices greatly, as it could be matched by domestic profit-taking. By the time London foreign exchange markets open, however, there should already be a genuine demand for sterling. The pluses of a high pound are helping to pin down costs, including wages and curb inflation; the minuses are reduced export competitiveness and a slow fall in unemployment.

Given a strong pound, high coupon gilts, offering yields near 9 per cent across the maturity range, would look attractive to investors from Japan or any other low-interest country. In particular, they would look much more attractive than equivalent securities denominated in the dollar, whose fall has cost Japanese investors a lot of money anyway and which is generally perceived to remain weak. A Tory victory would mark a secular turning point in interest rates and gilt-edged values. In future, gilt-edged would become fully integrated with the international bond market.

Interest on an international scale would spill over into leading equities and probably all alpha stocks. But the equity market is much more dependent on overseas support to sustain, let alone improve, on current near-peak prices. Without some new factor to replace takeover bids and the recent political bull market, many shares look ripe for profit-taking. Profits are still rising strongly, but the pace is forecast to decelerate rather than the reverse. Further progress in equities, therefore, depends on interest rates and sterling.

In advance of the election, the Bank of England has taken an extremely cautious line on interest rates, preferring to speculate massively against sterling than let short-term rates fall fast. Such temporary tactics would clearly need to be adjusted to the prospect of four years of Tory Chancellors brought up in the Thatcher school.

The perceptive Stenning Lewis of Phillips & Drew argues that, after last year's sharp devaluation, a strong pound is a high Government anti-inflationary priority. For there are growing worries about the rampant growth of credit and asset prices, whatever ministers have said on the hustings. He, therefore, reasons that the Bank of England will first allow sterling to rise, then intervene in the exchanges as and when it tops 75 on the Sterling Index and only later resort to lower interest rates. Such a strategy would certainly encourage investment from abroad.

The other possibility is that, with election uncertainty out of the way, the Government will fix the sterling rate within the European Monetary System.

Once sterling settled into its new role, there should be scope for quite dramatic cuts in interest rates because the EMS would greatly reduce the uncertainty discount on sterling instruments that has built up because the pound is the most exposed of all major deal currencies and the one with the greatest ratio of speculation to real use. That, indeed, looks the most likely source of the sharp fall in short-term rates that would give equities in particular a new lease of life.

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BUSINESS SUMMARY

Warner Howard Group shares priced at 130p

Warner Howard Group, which supplies shops and offices with commercial laundry systems and warm-air hand dryers, is coming to the stock market with a price tag of £29.98 million. A total of 25 per cent of the equity is being placed at 130p a share through Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker. Pretax profits have grown over the past five years from £7.5 million to £12.2 million.

The company supplies a wide range of commercial laundry equipment suitable for customers such as nursing homes and military establishments. The board says operating profits for the first two months of the current period show a considerable improvement over the same time last year.

Allegis Corp to restructure

Allegis Corp, the target of takeover bids, said in New York it would study breaking apart its travel businesses. Mr Richard Ferris (right), has resigned as chairman, to be replaced by Mr Frank Olson, chairman of Allegis's Hertz Rent-a-Car unit. The Allegis board said restructuring would include the sale of Hertz, Westin and Hilton International hotels and recapitalization of United Airlines.



Staveley up to £14m

Staveley Industries, the minerals to electrical and mechanical services company, yesterday announced sharply-increased pretax profits up from £10.8 million to £14.2 million for the year to March 28, 1987. The figures were well received in the market with the share price rising 7p to 74.5p. They stood at about the 58p mark at the interim stage in November last year.

Turnover was increased to £199.3 million (£175.9 million). Earnings per share were increased to 63.9p from 53.1p and the company is paying a final dividend of 14p, making 20p for the year against 17.5p last year. The company took £1.6 million below the line as extraordinary items. These contrast with an extraordinary debit last year of almost £1 million and relate to closure costs and potential costs of winding up an overseas partnership.

Plantations profits hit

Low prices for palm oil and cocoa have hit profits of Harrison's Malaysian Plantations, which is 30 per cent owned by Harrison's & Crossfield. Profits in the year to end March fell from M\$129 million (£31.6 million) to M\$78.6 million on turnover down M\$252 million to M\$505.4 million. The dividend is cut 5 cents to 20 cents. Harrison's says prices, except for cocoa, began to recover in the second half.

Sale proceeds boost Caffyns

Caffyns, the motor agent, more than tripled its profits last year, thanks to the proceeds of three property sales. The group made £1.76 million trading profit (£1.71 million) from turnover up to £110.6 million. The exceptional credit of £1.2 million takes pretax profits up from £638,000 to £1.9 million and earnings per share leap from 13.4p to 43.6p. A final dividend of 4.3p makes a total of 7.5p.

JFB resumes its interim payouts

Shareholders in Johnson & Firth Brown, the reorganizing, Sheffield engineering group, are receiving their first interim dividend since 1980. The board is paying 0.5p a share. But the weak dollar is threatening the group's recovery. It is thought to be behind a worrying shortfall in the aerospace division's order book which, if it continues, will "have an effect on profitability and employment prospects later in the year," the company says.

The six months to the end of March saw lower gross profits of £7.83 million against £8.50 million, but falling overheads, a lower interest charge and an increased contribution from the associated companies have left pretax profits substantially higher at £2.68 million, against £1.85 million.

CT GLOBAL RECOVERY INVESTMENT TRUST: Year to March 31. Total dividend 3p (2.5p). With figures in £000: Pretax profit on ordinary activities 505 (465). Earnings per share 3.40p (3.18p).

HEAVITREK BREWERY: Half-year to April 30. Interim dividend 2.4p (2p). With figures in £000: Turnover 2,395 (2,260). Pretax profit 44.9 (53.8). Loss per share 8.70 (13.0p).

COMPANY NEWS

WILLIAM MORRIS FINE ARTS: Results for 1986. With figures in £000: Turnover 8,039 (11,441). Pretax loss 773 (2,735 loss). Extraordinary debit nil (1,205). Loss per share 2.42p (7.88p).

NORTHCHART INVESTMENTS: Six months to March 31. Pretax profit £743,000 (£454,000), against £581,000. Earnings per share 4.2 cents (3.4 cents). Similar results should be attained in the last six months, the board reports.

UNITED SPRING & STEEL: The group has acquired Brierley, Collier & Harley Equipment from the William Boulton Group for £700,000 in cash. Brierley, operating from premises in Rochdale, Greater Manchester, makes machinery for the food-processing and confectionery industries.

THOMAS ROBINSON GROUP: Agreement has been reached for the purchase of Derek B Haigh for £1.5 million. Haigh provides a designing, building and installation service for electrical, mechanical and instrumentation contracts.

GAG KYNOCH: Six months to February 28. Interim dividend 1p (0.5p). With figures in £000: Sales 1,845 (1,625). Loss per share 8.70 (5.638). Loss per share 8.70 (5.638).

John Waddington names directors

John Waddington: Mr John Jorgensen, Mr Martin Buckley, Mr Geoff Gibson, Mr Peter Shakeshaft and Mr Beric Watson become directors.

Boustead: Mr Michael Noakes becomes group chief executive from July 1.

Smith Keen Cutler: Mr Richard Lawson has been elected executive chairman.

Royal London Insurance: Mr Michael Pickard will become executive chairman on January 1, 1988.

Energy Capital: Sir Cecil Barney has been appointed to the board and elected chairman.

Vaux Group: Mr Frank Nicholson and Mr Anthony Wood join the board.

APPOINTMENTS

Carlton Communications: Mr Bernard Cragg has been appointed a director with responsibility for finance.

Peat Marwick McLintock: Mr Roger Barlow (Manchester), Mr Tom Brass (London) and Mr John Griffith-Jones (London) become partners.

John Laing Construction: Mr Derek Welsh joins the board.

The Plessey Company: Mr Bernard Hambatch is made a director.

Stones Porter: Mr Tim Westhead is made a partner.

East West Insurance Company: Mr John Rampin, Mr David Turner and Mr Ray Usher join the board.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table with columns: First Dealings, Last Dealings, Last Option, For Settlement. Lists various financial instruments and their prices.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table showing market rates for various currencies including New York, London, and other international locations.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table showing sterling rates for various countries like Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, etc.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table showing dollar spot rates for various countries like Ireland, Singapore, Malaysia, etc.

Rate supplied by Barclays Bank HOPEX and Expat.

ALPHA STOCKS

Table listing various companies and their stock prices, including Allied-Lyons, Amstar, Anglo, etc.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table showing money market rates for various currencies and gold prices.

BULLION

Table showing bullion prices for various metals and currencies.

ECGD

Table showing ECGD rates for various currencies.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table showing London traded options for various companies and currencies, including call and put options.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing London financial futures for various currencies and interest rates.

Large advertisement for Staveley Industries plc featuring a bar chart of earnings per share from 1982/3 to 1986/7. The chart shows a steady increase from 21.8p in 1982/3 to 63.9p in 1986/7. Text includes: "The fourth consecutive year of growth gives a compound growth rate in pre-tax profits of 35% p.a." and "1986/87 Results: Profit before Tax up by 31% to £14.2m, Dividend up 2.5p to 20p per share, Return on Capital 23%, Balance sheet strong".

Advertisement for Staveley Industries plc. Includes the company logo, name, and contact information: "Staveley Industries plc, Measurement · Manufacturing · Minerals · Mechanical & Electrical Services, Staveley House, 11 Dingwall Road, Croydon CR9 3DB, Tel: 01-688 4404".

Advertisement for BASE LENDING RATES. Lists various banks and their lending rates, such as ABN & Company at 9.50%, BCCI at 9.00%, etc.

Advertisement for RECENT ISSUES. Lists various equity and rights issues, including Amstar, Balfour Beatty, etc.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES
AND FORWARD RATES

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Gain or Loss. Lists various companies like Kershaw (A), Sharpe & Fisher, Gold Greenless, etc.

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

Table with columns: 1987 High, Low, Sec, Price, Chge, Yld, Div, Div Yld. Lists various funds like SHORTS (Under Five Years), FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS, OVER FIFTEEN YEARS.

Table with columns: 1987 High, Low, Sec, Price, Chge, Yld, Div, Div Yld. Lists various funds like UNDATED, INDEX-LINKED.

Table with columns: 1987 High, Low, Sec, Price, Chge, Yld, Div, Div Yld. Lists various funds like BANKS DISCOUNT HP.

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES
Equities cautious

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on June 1. Dealings end on Friday. Contango day June 15. Settlement day June 22. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 28)

Table with columns: 1987 High, Low, Sec, Price, Chge, Yld, Div, Div Yld. Lists various companies under BREWERIES.

Table with columns: 1987 High, Low, Sec, Price, Chge, Yld, Div, Div Yld. Lists various companies under BUILDINGS AND ROADS.

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ALPHA STOCKS

10 OPTOK

BASE LENDING RATES

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust information with columns for fund names, prices, and changes. Includes sections for 'UNIT TRUST MANAGERS', 'LEGAL & GENERAL TRUST', and 'INVESTMENT TRUSTS'.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for company names, prices, and changes.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for fund names, prices, and changes.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including oil, metals, and agricultural products.

Vertical advertisements on the right side of the page, including 'W', 'RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT', 'AEROSPACE & DEFENCE CONTRACTS', and 'CLUBIONS'.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

June 11, 1987

What makes a good manager? This is a question that is of crucial concern to all businesses, and most especially to companies such as my own whose job it is to assess the management needs of organizations and to find the people to fill them. Obviously, we think we know some of the answers, but we are very well aware that we do not know all of them and we are always eager to listen to people who have something fresh to say on the subject.

One such person is Ben Heiss, an American consultant working in Europe, whose book, *The Professional Decision-Thinker*, appeared at the end of last year. It is interesting that Mr Heiss says very little about traditional managerial qualities such as leadership, drive and organizational ability.

Of course, these things are necessary to any manager who hopes to see his or her decisions properly implemented. The primary concern is the way in which managers think, and more specifically, how they organize the thinking that must, or should be,

done before they make a decision. It is the quality of this kind of thinking ("decision-thinking") that in the long run will determine whether a business or any other organization succeeds or fails.

If managers are to get the best possible thinking out of themselves and their colleagues, then two things are necessary. First, they must have a clear and explicit model of the decision-making process, which is divided into four distinct stages, and, secondly, they must understand the mental tools required to implement that process and learn how to manage it.

The second point is vital because this kind of thinking is essentially a team effort, and managing a "thinking team" that is engaged in exploring and evaluating a whole range of options is a very different matter from managing a team of executives who have been given a set of clearly defined goals and are working to achieve them—even if, as may often be the case, the membership of the two teams is virtually the same.

This kind of team thinking will be effective only if those respon-

Peter Giblin: Patience and courtesy are part of an executive's job

The best managers are always thinkers, rather than doers



Peter Giblin is president and chief executive of Carré, Orban and partners, international management consultants

sible for managing it create an atmosphere in which everyone feels able to speak his or her mind fully and frankly, while at the same time exercising constant tact.

People cannot produce ideas to order and they will soon stop producing any ideas at all if they find that their suggestions are treated casually or disrespectfully; which is not to say that the book advocates that managerial thinking should be conducted in a loose or unstructured way. On the contrary, the whole emphasis is on providing a formal, disciplined framework for a process that is too often aimless and unfocused.

It does however, stress the need for qualities such as patience and courtesy, which are not always considered a vital part of the executive's stock in trade.

Again, it is often assumed that the idea executive is a self-confident extrovert who wastes no time in examining his own motives or questioning his own abilities, but a manager who wants to get the best out of his thinking team will first have to make a realistic assessment of his own strengths and weaknesses as a thinker, as well as those of the other members of the team.

This is an area in which strength

comes from a diversity of talent, and, often, a diversity of opinion. So, if a manager knows that originality is not his strong point, he will seek out colleagues who are by nature innovative and imaginative. If he is habitually tempted to trust to his own flair and intuition, he must make sure that his team includes people who are by nature cautious and calculating, and that he listens to what they have to say.

The second and third stages of the process involve creating a range of alternatives and then scrutinizing every one of them in turn in order to assess its possible implications and consequences.

Waste must be tolerated because when a group of people sits around a table considering all the possible ways of dealing with a problem, the price of the one bright idea that turns out to contain the seed of solution is usually half a dozen ideas that will, on close examination, turn out to be useless.

Negative thinking is necessary because, once a range of options has been identified, it is vital that every option should be examined with the utmost scepticism. It is usually easy enough to see why things might go right, but what the manager needs to know is what might go wrong and how it can be prevented.

These stages present a particularly strong challenge to traditional management attitudes, for they demand two things that are anathema to most managers — waste and negative thinking.

Waste must be tolerated because when a group of people sits around a table considering all the possible ways of dealing with a problem, the price of the one bright idea that turns out to contain the seed of solution is usually half a dozen ideas that will, on close examination, turn out to be useless.

Such managers recognize they have weaknesses as well as strengths and seek out talents that complement their own. They do not try to reduce every issue to "the bottom line", but accept that complex questions may require complex answers. They abjure the quick-fire decision and always insist on taking time to consider the issues. They insist on knowing the risks, and planning for them rather than simply going bull-headed for the rewards. Above all they see themselves primarily as "thinkers" rather than "doers" and they know that, far from being an easy option, thinking involves discipline, rigour and a great deal of hard work.

*The Professional Decision-Thinker: Our New Management Priority is published by Sidgwick & Jackson at £13.95

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Quality Manager

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To £22,000, Car

The corporation is a world leader in electronics, and this division provides an array of complex devices and systems to vehicle, computer, and appliance manufacturers. Their UK manufacturing plant, which employs 300 staff and has a turnover of around £20m, manufactures microprocessor-based assemblies for O.E. applications. The company's programme of total quality management requires a Q.C. professional to further direct and develop systems and standards, ensuring quality awareness throughout the facility.

Reporting to the Managing Director the successful candidate will be responsible through a Product Quality Manager and a Vendor Quality Manager for a rapidly growing department of around 20 staff. Applicants, probably aged between 28 and 40, and ideally graduate engineers must have gained significant management experience of assembly manufacturing within the electronics or a closely related sector. Career opportunities are outstanding for the candidate who can demonstrate solid experience of modern quality techniques combined with first class man-management and communication skills.

Male or female candidates should submit in confidence a comprehensive c.v. or telephone for a Personal History Form to M. Stein, Hoggett Bowers plc, 1/2 Hanover Street, LONDON, W1R 9WB; 01 734 6852, quoting Ref: H17005/T.

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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The person appointed will certainly be able to bring with him, or her, an exceptional record of marketing unit trusts in a highly creative way, of controlling product development and of exercising astute financial management.

A broad spectrum of professional skills are required and these will be tested to the full during the establishment of the unit trust operation's strategy and targets, and the implementation of financial planning and control systems.

In addition, the Unit Trust Manager will represent Legal & General on unit trust marketing matters, deal personally with major clients and liaise at corporate level with colleagues.

The financial package will include a prestige car and a broad range of financial sector benefits.

For further details, please send your career details, in the strictest confidence, to: Doug Wilkins, Personnel Manager, Legal & General Assurance Society Ltd, 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 1SE. Interviews will be held in London.



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CITY OF LONDON £19,000-£25,000

WELL ESTABLISHED EXPANDING FIRM OF SOLICITORS

For this key position, we invite applications from candidates, preferably aged 37-45, with at least 7 years experience of administration, 2 years of which will have been as head or as No.2, ideally in a professional partnership. The successful candidate, reporting to the Managing Partner, will be responsible for all office services and premises management on a day-to-day basis, controlling a team of up to 15. Initiative, energy and the ability to identify problem areas and provide solutions is key to the success of this appointment. Initial salary negotiable, £19,000-£25,000 + non-contributory pension, free life assurance and free private health assurance. Applications in strict confidence under reference OMS4508/TT, to the Managing Director-CJA

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CITY £18,000-£25,000 + MORTGAGE

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP

This vacancy calls for candidates aged 23-35, who will have acquired not less than 2 years practical experience in a professional accountancy practice, or in a Treasury Department. Following a full training in compliance work, the successful candidate will be responsible for checking on internal staff dealings, the impact of adequacy tests, every aspect of monitoring deals and the continual up-date on the statutory requirements of The Securities Association and Investment Managers Regulatory Organisation. An enquiring, alert mind and the ability to relate well at all levels is important. Initial remuneration by way of salary and guaranteed bonus, negotiable, £18,000-£25,000 + subsidised mortgage, contributory pension, free life assurance, free family B.U.P.A., free permanent health scheme. Applications in strict confidence under reference ACC139/TT, to the Managing Director-ALPS

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LONDON c£16,000

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We are looking for people who can analyse complex circumstances. We don't pretend that learning the necessary skills and diplomacy to agree tax liabilities, investigate evasion and negotiate settlements is an easy undertaking, but it could hold a very promising future. After a few months training you will be accepting your own casework, and making your own decisions. Subject to successful progress, you can expect your first promotion within 4-5 years. Eventually, you can look forward to running your own tax district.

You must be under 36 with a first or second class honours degree in any subject or an acceptable equivalent. Final year students may apply. Salary (under review) according to qualifications and experience starts from £7320 rising to £24,300. Working in Central London you would receive £18,700 on your first promotion. Beyond this there are opportunities for promotion to the most senior levels in the Civil Service. Salaries are higher in London. Training can normally begin at an office in the area of your choice.

To find out more and for an application form please write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: A/87/320/132.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

TAX INSPECTORATE



Information Centre Manager

City c.£25,000-£30,000 + car + benefits

Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank Holdings Limited is the international securities division of the Mercantile House Group. This division is supported by an Information Systems Department employing about 100 people in various locations.

Due to further developments we now need an individual, probably in their late twenties/early thirties, with considerable experience of personal computing and its management in an IBM environment.

The Information Centre Manager will be responsible for providing the highest possible quality of services to internal PC users, ensuring that they are making best use of their PC equipment. This support service will include: the supply of IBM PC equipment; advice on WP, spread sheets and other software; appropriate networking of hardware and software; strategy for the further development of the Department and its staff; devising training plans for end-users; plus the review and evaluation of new equipment and software.

Initial salary negotiable £25,000-£30,000 with a company car and non-contributory pension. Career development prospects within this highly innovative company are excellent, and will be limited only by the ability and aspirations of the successful candidate.

Please write with full cv to: Mrs. E. A. Knott, Manager Personnel Services, Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank Holdings Limited, Mercantile House, 66 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6AE. Tel: 01-256 0233.

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Based in Barking, Essex, we are the U.K. subsidiary of a leading Japanese automotive component manufacturer. We supply directly to the U.K. automobile industry and also to the after-market. Continued growth of our U.K. operations has provided the following openings within our company:

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CIVIL/STRUCTURAL ENGINEER £ negotiable

We urgently require an engineer to assist us in important programmes of work, initially in the fields of sewer rehabilitation, pipeline installation and design. We are looking for a young dynamic person who can offer a range of abilities and who has the flexibility of approach to tackle a wide range of problems.

The position offers a major opportunity to expand knowledge in a range of areas: pipeline design and installation; brick/masonry structures, soil/structure interaction problems; finite element analysis; design with plastics and reinforced composites and experimental stress analysis. Previous experience would be an advantage.

As part of a small team you will be required to liaise with other organisations/companies to identify and progress programmes of collaborative research. An ability to communicate effectively with both specialist and practical engineers is essential.

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An exciting opportunity has arisen for a graduate to assist in ongoing research programmes relating to the performance of materials in engineering applications.

The work is challenging and involves working within the Water Industry, liaising with manufacturers and controlling work being undertaken at universities.

We are looking for a highly motivated individual with a flexible attitude. Good communication skills are essential as is the ability to grasp the details of technical subject areas in a short time.

Both positions are based in the expanding town of Swindon, Wiltshire, and offer excellent conditions of service including an index linked pension scheme, free life and accident insurance and flexible working hours. Assistance with relocation expenses where appropriate.

Please write enclosing a full CV to: Elizabeth Bunting, Personnel Manager, WRC Engineering, PO Box 85, Swindon SN5 8YR.



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We seek a bright young Graduate with 1-2 years commercial experience to train with a major new Accountancy Recruitment Consultancy. Initially assisting a team of Senior Consultants, previous sales experience is useful in addition to an enthusiastic and team spirited attitude.

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£11,135 to £13,503 p.a. inc. (award pending)

The Electricity Council is the central co-ordinating body of the Electricity Supply Industry in England and Wales.

The Pay Division of the Industrial Relations Department is responsible for the servicing and effective operation of the national negotiating machinery and for providing support to the industry's national negotiations and for giving information and advice to Electricity Boards. You will be a member of a team working with senior officers in all aspects of this work.

You should be able to demonstrate an eye for detail, administrative and analytical ability and the drafting skills necessary for the preparation of high quality reports and briefs to tight deadlines. A working knowledge of a public sector, or similar industry's agreements and of the operation of industrial relations machinery would be an advantage as would some experience of committee work.

A self motivated IR professional graduate seeking a second post would extend their role and skills and could expect to broaden their experience leading to promotion after an appropriate interval.

Please write in confidence, giving details of career to date and present salary quoting ref 49/T to:

David Webb, Recruitment Officer, The Electricity Council, 30 Millbank, London SW1P 4RD.



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For a well-educated individual (preferably Graduate) to train as a Financial Planning Adviser with a leading brokerage based in London and the West Country. The successful applicant will be located in our recently opened Investment Centre in the City of Bath and will have the following qualities: (1) aged 21-30, (2) self-motivated and hard-working, (3) a good communication (4) looking for an exciting career. In return, the position offers (1) full training and support, (2) an exciting working environment, (3) a stable career with a professional organization, (4) an attractive remuneration package, (5) a wide range of long-term opportunities with one of the most innovative and dynamic companies in the Financial Services sector. 01-404 6766 MICHAEL EDGE (LONDON) or write to:

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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AFRC INSTITUTE OF FOOD RESEARCH READING LABORATORY HEAD OF LABORATORY

(readvertisement)
Applications are invited for the post of Head of the Reading Laboratory of the AFRC Institute of Food Research. Candidates who have already applied will be considered further.

The three Laboratories of the IFR, at Reading, Bristol and Norwich, have an integrated programme of basic and applied research in the biological and physical sciences concerned with various aspects of the safety, quality and processing of food.

The Reading Laboratory has four research divisions - Biotechnology and Enzymology, Microbiology, Physics and Chemistry and Human Nutrition. It undertakes research relating primarily to milk and dairy products, oils and fats, beverages and confectionery, although much of the more basic work is not commodity related.

The Head of the Laboratory will be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Laboratory and will be accountable to the Institute's Director of Food Research. However, a primary responsibility of the successful candidate will be the scientific management and coordination of the more biologically-oriented research within the three Laboratories. This includes work in food microbiology and biotechnology and on the nutritional value of food. He/she will be employed by the AFRC but will have the status of Professor in the University of Reading and be a member of the University Senate.

Candidates should have qualified in food science or the related underlying scientific disciplines and have a distinguished record of research, together with experience in the management of research. Experience in microbiology or biotechnology would be a particular advantage.

This is a Grade 5 post with a salary in the range £23,730 to £27,065 (pay award pending).

Requests for further particulars and application forms should be sent to the Secretary, AFRC Institute of Food Research, Shinfield, Reading RG2 9AT. Closing date for applications 8 July 1987.



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If you want an opportunity which will stretch you both commercially and intellectually contact Ann Fitzgerald or send her your curriculum vitae. Closing date 18 June.

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You will need experience in one or more of the following: compensation, job evaluation and computers in personnel. Sector experience particularly in Financial Services but also in IT, high-tech manufacturing, retail, government or health would be an advantage. You will be working from a central London base or possibly from Uxbridge, Reading or Bristol. For the latter locations, consultancy experience will be essential.

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You'll be an experienced graduate statistician/modeller with practical experience in multivariate analytical techniques for compensation and attitude survey analysis and manpower modelling.

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Personnel Generalist: Manchester

Ideally you'll have broad experience in personnel management including compensation and a manufacturing industry background. Good consultancy experience will be essential.

Qualifications and Experience

We're looking for people with a good honours degree. An MBA, higher qualification in a Personnel Management related subject and/or IPM Corporate Membership will be a significant advantage. If you can add to that excellent written and oral communication skills and the willingness to work long hours under constant pressure, please write enclosing CV, to Fiona Dixon, Personnel Officer, at the address below.

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The one who stands out

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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Building Products West Midlands

c£45,000 Package, Car

This is an exciting vacancy offering outstanding career prospects for an experienced and professional manager from the construction or allied industries. During the last two years organic growth and acquisitions have more than doubled the turnover of this profitable international plc to £250 million. In order to accommodate this growth and to strengthen the senior management team a Divisional Director is to be appointed who will be responsible to a Main Board Director for several autonomous profit centres including both manufacturing and sub-contract operations. The individual companies are successful and profitable, but would benefit from mature leadership and a greater degree of co-ordination and control. Candidates should be graduates with a demonstrably successful commercial career ideally in the contracting industry. They should be accustomed to profit centre responsibility and the employment of sophisticated control techniques. The remuneration package comprises a substantial basic salary, profit related bonus, an executive car and appropriate fringe benefits including relocation assistance if required.

Hoggett Bowers

Executive Search and Selection Consultants

S.A. Lievens. Ref: M13010/T. Male or female candidates should telephone in confidence for a Personal History Form. 061 832 3500. Hoggett Bowers plc, St James's Court, 30 Brown Street, MANCHESTER, M2 2JF.

Career Opportunity in Personnel - South Wales

Salary negotiable

Operating from our Factory in Merthyr Tydfil, where we employ some 1800 people, we are involved in the manufacture of domestic appliances for the white goods market.

A vacancy has arisen for a Personnel Officer who will report directly to the Deputy Personnel Manager, and will provide a generalist personnel service for some 700 manual employees in a given area of the Factory.

There will be an involvement in recruitment, training and welfare, but a major aspect of the work will be to help ensure good employee relations by providing reliable and practical advice to Managers and Supervisors on the Company's personnel policies and procedures.

The successful candidate will also be responsible for providing an efficient administration service of employee records, and will be supported in this role by a personal Secretary.

The position will appeal to a young motivated Personnel professional in his/her mid to late 20's, who is seeking a sound base for further development.

Suitable candidates will possess a relevant degree and/or IPM qualifications, and should preferably have at least two years' suitable experience in a unionised manufacturing environment.

Salary will be negotiable, commensurate with qualifications and experience, and benefits will be those associated with a Company of Hoover's international reputation.

Relocation expenses will be given where appropriate.

Please write in confidence, giving initially brief details of experience, qualifications and age to:-

Mr R M Runciman
Employment Manager
Hoover plc
MERTHYR TYDFIL
South Wales
Tel: 0685-3221 ext 3476
Previous applicants need not apply

J234/11

COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS NEGOTIATOR

Hemel Hempstead c.£15k + car + petrol

McDonnell Douglas is a major UK supplier of sophisticated Computer and Network Systems with an extensive customer base in both the Commercial and Public Sector. Turnover in 1987 will exceed £100m and continued profitable growth has established the Company as one of the country's premier information Systems suppliers.

Expansion of the UK Commercial function provides an exciting opportunity for a young Negotiator with a strong legal background to join the UK Contracts Department. This is a well respected team of high-profile professionals, committed to protecting the Company's commercial interests.

You will need confidence, flexibility and dedication for this key role with excellent inter-personal skills at the highest level. Ideally qualified to degree level, you should have first hand experience of contract negotiation in a high technology environment.

We will reward you not only with a generous salary, a car and free petrol but also with a truly stimulating career move with opportunities to move ahead in a rapidly expanding organisation.

To take up this opportunity please write, enclosing a full CV, to: Julia Ronde, McDonnell Douglas Information Systems Limited, Boundary Way, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 7HU. Tel: 0442 61266.

MCDONNELL DOUGLAS

Training & Personnel Manager

c. £15,000 + Car

This is an exceptional opportunity to join Gieves & Hawkes who are a well-established and prestigious Gentleman's Outfitters of international repute operating in the exclusive/luxury goods market.

Reporting to the Personnel Director this challenging role will enable the right person to contribute substantially to the setting up of the training function, as well as the unique opportunity to develop their experience in the personnel field. Responsibilities will include identification of training needs, drawing up of training plans, designing and implementing training programmes, implementation/monitoring of personnel policies and recruitment. Aged 25+ you will have at least 5 years experience in Management Training and Development and will also have the ability and drive to play a key role in the Company's future growth.

Initially the position will be based in Portsmouth. However, there is the possibility that this function may re-locate closer to the London area within the next 1-2 years.

An attractive salary and benefits package includes BUPA, discount on Company merchandise and a Company Pension Scheme. If you feel you have the necessary experience then please write giving career details to:-

Joanna Farrelly
Personnel Director, Gieves and Hawkes Limited
21-22 The Hard, PORTSMOUTH, Hants PO1 3DY
We are an equal opportunities employer

J234/10

GIEVES & HAWKES
No. 1 Savile Row, London

CUSTOMER SERVICES

Datastream provides the City with up-to-the-minute on-line financial information using the latest computer technology.

Our Customer Services Department are looking for people who are articulate and calm under pressure to work with our customers, providing advice, education and telephone assistance on all aspects of our systems.

Applicants should have a minimum of 2 'A' levels and be quick to learn with an analytical mind. Some knowledge of the City is desirable although not essential.

Salary £8,000 - £10,000 + excellent benefits.

To apply, send full CV immediately (including day telephone number where possible) to C.G. William, Personnel Assistant, Datastream International Limited, Mounmouth House, 58-64 City Road, London EC1Y 2AL.

DATASTREAM

Exciting New Venture

Business Centre Manager

Central London to £20,000 + profit share & car

Our client's extensively refurbished and air conditioned premises will provide a superb environment for an up-market Business Centre to be launched in the Autumn. Furnished and equipped to the highest standard and soundly funded by a major financial services group, the Centre has all the hallmarks of success.

They are now seeking an entrepreneurial and resourceful Manager for this exciting new venture to play a key role in its start up, developing its marketing strategy, recruiting its staff and ensuring its day-to-day operational efficiency. It will be demanding and highly challenging, and the profit sharing arrangements envisaged will ensure your contribution is fully rewarded.

We will be looking for experience of managing a successful operation providing a range of services, as well as commercial flair, good communicative ability and a professional attitude to business. Experience of a start-up situation would be helpful but is not essential.

The attractive remuneration package will fully reflect the importance of this position. Please send concise details, including current salary and daytime telephone number, quoting reference WG110, to WS Gilliland, Executive Selection Division, Grant Thornton Management Consultants Limited, Fairfax House, Fulwood Place, London WC1V 6DW.

Grant Thornton
Management Consultants

ECC GROUP

ENGLISH CHINA CLAYS P.L.C.

Chartered Secretary

A Chartered Secretary is required for the Group Secretariat, based in St. Austell, of English China Clays P.L.C., a public listed company with interests worldwide.

The successful candidate will be between 25-40 years of age and ideally will have gained a broad range of company secretarial experience within the Secretariat of a listed company or a substantial unlisted public or private company. Initially the duties will be as P.A. to the Group Secretary, who is also a main board director, but there are excellent prospects of advancement within the Department.

Salary will be within the range of £15,000-£20,000 depending on age and experience and benefits will be in line with those usually offered by a large company.

Applicants are invited to write giving full career details to the Group Secretary at:-

John Keay House,
St. Austell, Cornwall,
PL25 4DJ

All applications will be treated in confidence.

London Enterprise Agency

MARRIAGE BUREAU MANAGER

Small Firms Business Introduction Service

The London Enterprise Agency requires a Manager for its Marriage Bureau Business Introduction service which links small businesses with private investors and managers. The post also involves acting as Development Manager for the local Investment Networking Company, (LINC), which links several enterprise agencies nationwide. Candidates should have the ability to organise seminars and make presentations to a variety of audiences, as well as having an interest in business enterprise. Candidates will be aged between 23 - 30 have an outgoing personality and an adaptable working style, together with some experience of small business issues.

Application with a CV, stating current salary, to The Chief Executive, LENTA Limited, 4 Snow Hill, EC1 2RS by 17th June 1987.

OILFIELDS CONSTRUCTION

Local Overseas, On Shore, Europe, USA, South, S. America, Australia, Mexico, Canada, Etc.

For pipelayers, drillers, tool pushers, heavy equipment operators, welders, engineers, surveyors, architects, general foremen, drilling geologists, supervisors, electricians, OTR drivers, plumbers, mechanics, carpenters, ex-military, etc.

TO \$6500 US/MO
Transportation, housing, R&R, medical/dental, 1-5 year contracts.

Please call USA between 3pm and 3am U.K. Time
Speak English only
0101(214) 890-6983
0101(802) 222-9890
0101(802) 831-1888
0101(713) 872-6800

WORLD JOB CENTERS
Publication, subscription fee, no guarantee. Not visa, age, or direct here. Working visas sponsored by employees. All representations are factual, verifiable and current.

Marketing Manager

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association

Age 30+ c.£16,000 + car + benefits

Marketing is vital to the success of present forward looking expansion plans. The existing postholder is due to go overseas, and a replacement is needed to build upon the present foundation. Reporting to the Director of Publicity, Fund-Raising and Special Projects, the task is to co-ordinate efficient and effective marketing into the 1990's.

Responsibilities include the development of the Association's marketing strategy, particularly special promotions and national and corporate fund-raising. Additionally, there is a key responsibility for the expansion of the GDBA's successful trading company. It will be essential to work harmoniously with regional controllers as well as Head Office senior staff in Windsor.

The position is open to external and internal candidates who should apply with full career details to R N Orr, quoting reference M3311, clearly stating if the application is in confidence.

References will not be required until the final shortlist stage. Any queries will be answered on 01-439 6083.

Roland Orr & Partners
Management Consultants
12 New Burlington Street London W1X 1FF Telephone 01-439 6891

angel asb international recruitment

Open day Saturday 13th June 1987 9am - 5pm. Call in for an informal chat or interview for all permanent or temporary staff vacancies in the following divisions:

- Secretarial
- Accountancy
- Building Services
- Catering
- Sales & Marketing
- Computer Services

Contact 01-408 1344 or call in at 70-71 New Bond Street, London W1

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PURCHASING, INVENTORY & PRODUCTION CONTROL

We specialise solely in executive recruitment for the Materials Management sector and our clients constantly need high calibre people with skills in Purchasing, Inventory Management or Production Planning/Control, at all levels to £30,000 p.a.

If you are well-qualified, aged 22-45, and interested in career opportunities carefully matched to your requirements, contact us today for an application form. Our confidential services are free to applicants.

PURCON (CONSULTANTS) LIMITED
40 Lower Kings Road, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2AA
Telephone: 04427-75931/2
DE Lic.588730

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTORS WITH ENGINEERING DEGREES

Experienced engineers required to train technicians/engineers in Saudi Arabia in the following fields:

- Power and desalination plant operation and maintenance.
- Process engineering.
- Instrumentation.
- Mechanical/electrical.

Candidates should have engineering degree or equivalent, and a minimum 3 years' experience in their field of specialization, including training work.

General conditions:
A) Single status
B) Two year contract
C) One holiday, each of two weeks, per year.

Please send complete c.v. to:
S.A.R.L. Commercial Services Ltd.,
6 Lake House, South Hill Park,
London NW3 2SH.

Assistant Librarian

Continuing expansion of a major American investment House dictates the need for a qualified Librarian to assist in the Library of its London office.

The job description includes reference work, mainly in the field of international company information; on-line searching on a range of host systems; close involvement in the implementation of an in-house library management system and general library duties.

A background in business information with on-line experience is essential. A knowledge of at least one European language would be advantageous as would familiarity with the Sydney software package.

Excellent salary and attractive benefits are offered.

Please apply in writing, enclosing a full CV to: The Personnel Recruiter, Box A21, Box No Dept, Times Newspapers, PO Box 484, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9DD.

Parceline

Basic Salary £13,000 (for right person) plus bonus, company 1600GL car.

As a Major force within the industry of Express Parcels Carriage Parceline require at their Maidstone.

SALES AREA MANAGER

Reporting directly to the General Manager you will be responsible for growing the business within our existing channels plus developing our customer base throughout Kent and East Sussex.

We are looking for sales professionals with a proven successful sales track record with ambition, energy and above all a need to succeed. If you are the person we are looking for please write telling why with full CV to:-

Mr S. L. Stokes
General Manager
Parceline Ltd
Unit 4 & 5 Larkfield Trading Estate
Larkfield

CATERING EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION MANAGER

H & K is an international manufacturer of high quality stainless steel catering equipment to the fast food industry throughout the U.K. and Europe.

We have an immediate opening for an installer to work in the U.K. and Europe.

Applicants must be fluent in French and English.

The successful applicant will:
Have a sound technical background, with general experience in fabrication and installation of light gauge metal, preferably stainless steel.
Have the ability to operate independently after training.
Possess the Communication skills required to deal with a demanding customer and to organise attending trades on site.
Have the writing and accounting skills required to process paperwork, job reports, expense reports etc.
Be willing to travel at irregular times at short notice, and be away from home for periods generally not exceeding three weeks.
Be willing to work nights and unsociable hours as required by the work load.

Salary and benefits negotiable. Interested applicants should apply in writing to:

Installation Manager
H & K (Rugby) Limited
2 Chariot Way
Globe Farm Industrial Estate
Rugby, Warwickshire CV21 1DA

What about the 85% of Jobs that are never advertised?

We will show you how to access the hidden work market effectively and get what you want, rather than what you'll settle for.

Make your move & call to find out more about this proven career development programme.

328 0472

RIGHT CAREER MOVES

No matter whether you are seeking another job or considering a new career, we can provide you with effective and professional help.

Our service is tailor-made to your needs and circumstances. With coverage of both advertised and unadvertised vacancies, we aim for more success - in less time and at less cost.

For a free, confidential discussion, senior executives are invited to contact us at:

Mainland
Executive Services
Elizabeth House 22 Suffolk Street, Birmingham.

Birmingham 021-443 0284
Nottingham 0522-414590
Manchester 0622 73212
Guildford 0483-603555

IBM RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT

We are an expanding agency specialising within the I.T. Ind for IBM Systems Professionals. There is a strong emphasis upon the financial sector as we have many prospective clients within the sq. mile.

If you have a great exp. or would like to move into this progressive field, an ambitious and articulate read out. We will expect you to have exp. of the recruitment industry, personnel or computers but there would be a preference to those with knowledge of the Micro Computer industry. More exp will be your ability to work under your own initiative and be self motivated. We will help this association with an excellent salary plus a very good bonus structure with ongoing training.

Contact Jayne Royston on 01 499 4595 and evenings on 421 4562. Hatched, 18 James Street, London W1M 5HN.

THE CHELSEA DESIGN CO

Have vacancies for experienced and creative sales staff for their busy Chelsea shop. Approximation of good clothes essential.

Telephone: 01-852 4626.

A BETTER CV - for help in writing the first interview. Tel: 0902 735506 (one after 6pm hrs).

JOBS in the Alps (Erop. Apr 1)
150+ vacancies for top/first class resorts. Long hours and very hard work but good pay and conditions. Knowledge of French/German and/or other experience valuable. All jobs full season Dec-Mar. Interviews early July and Sept. London SW12 P.O. Box 598.

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SENIOR S...
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£20K - £24...
SALES EXECUTIVE...
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Salary circa £15k + exp...
SENIOR MANAGER...
LEADING CITY WINE SHIPPER...

01-481 4481

SALES & MARKETING

01-481 4481

DROOPY & BROWNS LIMITED

Require a Manager/Manageress for their second London branch opening in the Autumn.

Experience in retail management and communicative skills are essential for this demanding position involving the retail and promotion of our distinctive and comprehensive range including dayware, ballgowns and wedding dresses.

Applications in writing with c.v.to:

Personell Department,
Droopy & Browns Limited
20-21 Stonegate, York YO1 2AS.

SENIOR SALES ENGINEER MICROWAVE COMPONENTS £20K - £24K PACKAGE + CAR

Are you an experienced Microwave Component Sales Engineer looking for a move towards management?

We are a major U.S. Microwave Components Manufacturer looking for an aggressive self-motivated Senior Sales Engineer to join our dynamic U.K. Sales Subsidiary.

You will be responsible for promoting one of the widest range of microwave materials, devices and components available today. Selling into major UK accounts you will already have the necessary contacts within the major defence contractors, as well as an appreciation of the current programme and projects.

For the right individual a package worth up to £24k is available together with a duality car and comprehensive benefits.

Write today to J. Gilbert, 2 High St. Lewknor, Oxon. OX9 5TN enclosing your C.V. and explaining your interest in this exciting position to initiate a confidential discussion.

EXPERIENCED SALES REPRESENTATIVE - AGENT REQUIRED

For diffusion of well known Italian upmarket Designer label, men and womens wear.

Only agent who has worked at designer level, and have well established trade connections, need apply.

Excellent salary and benefits.

PLEASE WRITE TO
LAFINCH LTD,
72 NEW BOND ST,
LONDON W1.

ENGLAND NO. 1 IM D.O.B. EXPORT

Moschen San Britagisches Team...
WURTH UK LTD invite applications from professional people to fill vacant positions throughout the United Kingdom within both our Automotive and Wood/Metalcraft Sectors as

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

WURTH UK are part of an international organisation operating in 21 countries worldwide and are market leaders for high quality consumable items including Nuts, Bolts, Screws, Chemical Products Fasteners and Electrical Connectors to the Automotive Aftermarket and Fasteners, Tools, Abrasives and Chemicals to the Wood/Metal craft trades to name but a few.

If you have experience within the Wood/Metalcraft or garage trades and wish to branch into the competitive field of selling or are already successful within a selling environment we can offer a competitive salary and commission package plus a company car and expenses.

If you drive, are ambitious with a pleasant personality and wish to join growing and profitable organisation write in first instance enclosing full C.V. to:

WURTH UK LIMITED,
1 CENTURION WAY,
ERITH, KENT DA15 4AF.
WOOD/METALCRAFT: Mr G. V. Colenso.
AUTOMOTIVE: Mr J. Herbert.

SALES EXECUTIVES - GERMANY

You sell the name, we deliver the goods

The TNT Group of Companies operates in all the significant trading areas of the world and employs more than 55,000 people. As one of the fastest growing divisions within the Group, TNT Skypak provides a global courier service through 727 operating locations in 184 countries.

Owing to an aggressive development programme we are looking for field sales staff of various locations in Germany. You will be fluent in German and while it is likely you will have had sales experience, certain positions could be offered to highly motivated individuals who seek a career in Business and Sales Management.

Along with an enviable salary and benefits package these positions offer the opportunity to develop your career within a multi-national organisation.

Write to or phone David Bowler, Group Personnel Manager, TNT Skypak International (UK) Ltd, Ralston House, 2-6 Frances Road, Windsor, Berks. SL4 3AA. Telephone: Windsor (0753) 858001.



SALES EXECUTIVES

We are looking for two dynamic sales personnel to join our team selling overseas property. Big rewards are awaiting the right people who can accept a challenge and meet our high standards.

If you're between 28-38 years old and have a proven track record in direct sales, then we'd like to hear from you.

Write in the first instance, sending us personal details and career to date to:

Jayne Walker
UK Sales Manager
Aetofire Limited
140 Tolpeltack Street
London E22A 4SD

UK SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

London Based Salary £25,000

Sales and Marketing Manager required, preferably with service or multi-product industry experience, to assume total responsibility of all aspects of U.K. sales and marketing.

This demanding position will need outstanding practical marketing skills and management capabilities.

The ideal candidate is likely to be aged between 32 and 38 with a proven ability.

Applications in writing, enclosing CV and recent photograph, by no later than Thursday 2nd July to Mr. T. Metello at the address below.

TAPAR PORTUGAL
GILLINGHAM HOUSE, 38-44 GILLINGHAM STREET, LONDON SW1V 1JW.

TRAINEE MANAGERS

This is a superb opportunity to develop your own business and career path in a growing company and exciting industry. We are a National Company with an aggressive expansion programme looking for 5 people to join our City team; advising clients on all aspects of finance including Taxation, Insurance, Mortgages and Pensions

FPS (MANAGEMENT) LTD.
Phone Michael Hagestall
01-283 6183

SILVER FOX CAN YOU HELP US ????

WE NEED TWO SALES PEOPLE, ONE NORTH AND ONE SOUTH OF THE THAMES TO SELL OUR OWN PRODUCTS.

Silver Fox Limited is a rapidly growing, hard working, friendly, company selling primarily to specifiers and engineers in varied electrical areas - we have found that this makes the job that much more interesting and satisfying.

In short if you can offer us the drive and enthusiasm we are keen to talk to you about the opportunity of working together. There is also plenty of advancement and opportunity within the group.

Good basic salary plus commission, plus car.

In the first instance prior to local interviews, please write enclosing to:-

MR NICHOLAS MICHAELSON
SILVER FOX LIMITED
39-41 NORTH ROAD
ISLINGTON, LONDON N7 9DP.

REGIONAL SALES MANAGER LONDON/SOUTH EAST ENGLAND

Matthew Glog & Son Limited, proprietors of The Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky, wish to appoint a Regional Sales Manager to assume control of their Brand Development Representatives in the above area.

A major aspect of the position is account negotiation but it also carries the responsibility for the further development of the distribution and sale of The Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky and the company's other products.

We welcome applications from enthusiastic and energetic persons, aged between 30 and 45, who have at least five years relevant experience of quality consumer goods. Previous experience of the on and off sectors of the wine spirit trade would be beneficial.

Applications, in writing, giving fullest details of age, educational qualifications and career details, should be sent to:

The Personnel Manager,
Matthew Glog & Son Limited,
33 Kinross Street, Perth PH1 5EU

TOP FLIGHT TELESales MANAGER REQUIRED FOR Established Advertising Company

Due to expansion we urgently need to interview Telesales Managers with a view to opening a new London office. Applicants should be confident & highly motivated people to direct our in-house operations. Duties will include the development of a sales team to achieve our target performance. This is an excellent opportunity for the right applicant with a minimum 5 years relevant experience in a similar role.

For an immediate interview telephone: Mr. Oakes on 631 3279.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

LE COURT
Hampshire's Leonard Cheshire Foundation Home for Severely Physically Disabled People

HEAD OF HOME

Applications are invited from persons whose previous experience suggests that they have marked characteristics of unobtrusive leadership, human understanding and considerable administrative and business management ability.

Candidates should be between 35 and 55 years. Previous experience in Social Service type of work could be an advantage, but this is not essential. The Selection Committee will attach greater importance to the character, adaptability and background of the candidates and the degree of success they have achieved in whatever walk of life they come from.

Salary will be by negotiation, in the region of £15/£16,000 per year (according to age and experience). Applicants should preferably live locally.

This appointment falls vacant on 1st October 1987.

Please write for the Job Description and Application Form to:

The Head of Home,
Le Court Leonard Cheshire Foundation Home,
Greattham,
Liss,
Hampshire GU33 6HL.
Closing date for return of completed application forms is 29th June, 1987.

ARE YOU A BORED NEGOTIATOR?

If you have at least 2 years experience as a Negotiator, have ambition, a sense of drive and enthusiasm and are willing and able to accept a challenge which does not entail selling property we might just have the job for you.

We are a property oriented company in need of a bright experienced Negotiator who will be able to work on his/her own initiative and manage a team of at least 4 people.

In return we will offer a salary package of c.18-20K. For further information call:

01-995 6924
after 7.30pm, in confidence.

STRETCH YOUR POTENTIAL

Highly successful expanding company offers an interesting sales support position to strongly motivated persons. Benefits include free health insurance + 50 car + competitive salary. Must be able to sell to and liaise with existing customers, co-ordinate exhibitions and marketing plans, generate and follow up sales leads. Experience of computer an advantage. Please write with current CV for immediate interview:

Hi-Tech Industries Ltd, 2 Eastman Rd, Acton, London W3 7QE. or call 743 2255.

SALES PROFESSIONAL

Experienced sales person required for expanding marine business based in Southampton. Nautical experience not essential. Potentially very high rewards for the right person, excellent career prospects.

Please write with full C.V. to:

The Sales Director,
R.T. Marine,
Shannon Quay, William St,
Northam, Southampton SO1 1QL.

SKI SUPERTRAVEL

RESERVATIONS STAFF

We are looking for self-motivated, sales-oriented reservations staff with resort knowledge and a background in sales. Applicants must have a lively personality and the ability to deal with customers. Age 21+. Salary £7,500.

Please write with full c.v. to:

Lizette Norton,
SKI Supertravel,
22 Haver Hill,
London SW1X 0EP.

MARKETING ASST.

Young graduate for high tech company in Uxbridge - get into advertising, sales and marketing. Salary £10,000 neg. Please call Sandra Stiles, Meridian Rec. Cons. 01-580 2842/3.

TYPEFR SALES: Articulate customer service for national advertising sales and sales training in the UK. Basic with commission. Tel: 01-580 2167.

01-481 4481 BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY 01-481 4481

PROJECT MANAGER Integrated Security Systems

London and South East of England Salary circa £15K + Company Car

Securiguard Technical Systems is a U.K. leader in the design and installation of computerised "Access Control" and "CCTV" systems in a rapidly expanding and competitive market.

Due to reorganisation we are seeking a Project Manager with a proven record in the design, installation and effective maintenance of quality security systems. Ideally you will have experience of working for a major installer or manufacturer.

Responsible for the development of new and existing systems projects, the successful applicant must have the ability to manage and motivate a team of engineers.

In addition to a competitive remuneration package, we offer excellent career prospects to the successful applicant.

Interested candidates should apply in writing to:

Ms. Y. Kendall, Personnel Manager,
Securiguard Services (London) Ltd,
10/12 Emerald Street, London W6JH 3DL.

SENIOR MANAGER

Required to run branch within Financial Services Industry in the West End. Management experience an advantage. Income £15,000 + share participation opportunity.

Call
Caroline Bradley-Farmer
on 734 8786

LEADING CITY WINE SHIPPERS

Urgently require staff for their restaurant and private dining room outlet. Monday to Friday lunchtime, with one evening per week. Ongoing training essential as the successful applicant will soon be taking a managerial position. Salary opportunity useful.

Please contact
Tiffany Walker
01 248 1121

Accountancy Personnel Placing Accountants First

PROSPECTS IN BANKING £13,000
Major international bank seek an Accounts supervisor to run the accounts department and supervise staff. Banking staff with experience preferred. Benefits include: Mortgage subsidy bonus, pension scheme, flexi lunch.
REF: B6558

CITY 63/65 Moorgate, EC2R 6BH 01-638 9955

PART QUALIFIED £15,000
Actively studying accountant, sought by firm of designers, to control financial accounts and management reporting. A lively, artistic environment with active social life.
REF: B6312

STRAND 110 The Strand, WC2 0AA 01-379 6716

PART QUALIFIED £11,000 + Bens
International firm of precious metal traders have an opening for a young ambitious part qualified accountant with slight set high. Package includes profit share & study leave.
REF: B641R

WEST END 14 Great Castle Street, W1N 7AD 01-580 9186

NEARING QUALIFICATION? To £17,000
Opening for an ACCA/CIMA finalist with commercial experience who can handle integrated computer systems with an independent travel group who are definitely going places. Apply now to avoid missing out. CL/D.

VICTORIA 6 Glen Hse, Stag Place, SW1E 5AG 01-828 7555

Corporate Strategy Newly/Recently Qualified Accountant

Package circa £22,000 + Car

Within the Corporate Planning Team of this major British Retail Plc your responsibilities will include assisting with development of medium term strategy, acquisitions & profitability analysis. Presentation of a monthly commercial summary to the Executive Board will ensure high exposure at an early stage in your career.

Based in Central London, promotion is envisaged within 18 months to a Divisional Controlling Officer. Candidates aged 24-28, ACA, CIMA or ACCA, will currently be employed either in Professional Practice or Commerce/Industry.

Please contact JANE EASTON on 01-404 3155 at ALDERWICK PEACHELL and PARTNERS 125 High Holborn London WC1. (Rec Cons)

QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT WEST AFRICA

Opening for qualified accountant seeking overseas experience in our West African office. Previous African experience preferred but French & Portuguese. Post also involves considerable managerial responsibility. Salary and overseas package according to age and experience. Practising Christian preferred.

Please ring Mr Morley on 01-623 8128

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Working behind the scenes

Even if you have come late to the idea of training as a choreographer, designer, actor, agent or stage manager, there may still be time provided you have the aptitude, the will and some sort of related background.

A few drama schools run two-year courses for the older student and several do one-year postgraduate courses. Even the three-year course enrolls recruits well above the normal college entry age—both the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and the Central School of Speech and Drama have admitted students of 30.

A number of people enter the profession via a university or polytechnic degree and spare-time acting. Community theatre tends to choose the slightly older entrant with a degree.

Most of the 17 colleges that comprise the Conference of Drama Schools also have stage management courses and here, too, the intake may cover quite a wide age range.

Laurie Dennett, RADA's director of technical training and design, says: "Our students are between 18 and 37. Some have been crew in a theatre and cannot get any further. I don't mind if they have O- or A-levels so long as they have a light in their eyes."

By the end of the six-term diploma course, students have the experience to find good jobs, having progressed from being a stage hand for a production to assistant stage manager and finally stage manager. The work is arduous and you need a strong constitution, intelligence, practical ability, artistry, tact and authority. Incidentally, a number of nurses apply for the course.

Central's students, who achieve the higher diploma of the Business and Technical Education Council on completing the two-year course, also have good job prospects. Applicants should have five GCSEs, at least one at A-level.

The course provides a foundation for those wanting to direct, but in autumn next year the Central plans to launch a course for directors. This is now being developed in conjunction with the British Theatre Association and is designed to help offset the dearth of training for directors in this country.

It will last a year, with an initial intake of 18 students, most of whom are expected to be between 25 and 30. They will need some experience of theatre work; some are likely to be actors who find they have directing skills.

The role of theatrical designer is exciting and creative and attracts many entrants, mature as well as young. Although many students begin at 19 or 20, others have started at up to 40 and

HORIZONS

There's far more to a theatrical career than acting, says Sally Watts

There is no reason why they should not be a good deal older, provided they have ability and the right qualities, says Francis Reid, director of theatre design at the Central School of Art in London.

"We look for tremendous visual imagination and the ability to convey this through drawing," he explains. "Drawing skills are very important, so is commitment to the theatre. Students must be imaginative and able to keep calm when there is panic all around."

The work—designing sets, costumes and lighting—involves long and irregular hours for low pay. A number of designers suggest their income by teaching. Students here are taught by professional designers and directors; Mr Reid is himself a lighting designer. Another lecturer freelances for the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

During their three-year BA Hons course, students spend two weeks on secondment to the National Theatre studio, and in their final year they design a production, working with a school of opera or drama, or a small fringe company. The shows are attended by practising designers who may sign up a new graduate as an assistant.

This is the usual way to start, after which the beginner generally goes on to freelance independent. The school is increasingly introducing students to aspects of running a business.

According to Mr Reid, it is not specially difficult to get work. This may be partly due to the school's reputation, as 70 per cent of the leading theatrical designers have graduated from here.

Wimbledon School of Art and Birmingham and Trent polytechnics also offer a degree course, and Croydon Art College has a BTEC-approved diploma.

Competition for places, as in all aspects of theatre work, is heavy. Central receives 80 applications for the 18 annual places. Entry requirements for young students are those normally sought by the Council for National Academic Awards, which validates the degree, but people of exceptional talent can override the usual O-level and A-level stipulations.

Teenagers generally do a preliminary art course, such as a foundation year, before starting theatrical designs. Some entrants are graduates in other subjects

and hope for a discretionary grant.

Choreography is another career open to the older but talented student. Advanced courses at the Laban Centre for Movement and Dance are pursued by mature students up to the age of 50; they should have a relevant background such as performing or teaching.

The centre prepares students for careers in choreography, performance, teaching and community work. There is a degree course in dance theatre, which requires A-levels, and a certificate course for which applicants are auditioned and interviewed. Both take three years, with choreography as part of the syllabus.

Graduates wanting to teach in state schools must follow the degree course with one year's postgraduate study. There is also an optional one-year course in community work.

The centre is "undated with applications," says Marion North, the director. "But there is always enough work for the outstanding choreographer."

A career as an independent agent is certainly not for the young beginner but for the person who trains and builds up experience in negotiating over many years. He or she is the actor's ears and eyes, guide and mentor, closely involved with the actor's future.

Agents are not only in London but also in such places as Manchester, Halifax or Birmingham, and they may specialize in variety or musical theatre.

James Sharkey, one of the most influential agents, says: "We open doors and create opportunities but we are not the most revered people."

"An actor may go, say, from RADA to a part in Birmingham Rep and be spotted by Laurence Olivier. But he may not think to ask how he got that particular part, nor why Laurence Olivier happened to have visited the theatre on a wet Saturday afternoon."

Being an agent is a difficult and technical job and you need to be properly trained, he said. A reasonable number do not make it. "You must have clout, otherwise casting directors and producers won't talk to you."

Apart from students, Mr Sharkey does not approach actors; they go to him. Vanessa Redgrave is one. Like other agents, he goes to schools' final-year productions, "and one person may catch your eye, perhaps in quite a small part". Timothy Dalton, Nicola Pagett and Jonathan Pryce are among the beginners he spotted.

Note: I am told that the Conference of Drama Schools' prospectus, which lists colleges accredited to the National Council of Drama Training, will not be available until September/October.



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BOXING

Hoping a dream becomes reality

From Srikanth Sen Boxing Correspondent Atlantic City

Gerry Cooney's supporters are still rubbing their eyes. They still believe that the 6ft 7in Irish-American heavyweight is really back. Even with just four days to go to the "War at the Shore" against Michael Spinks for the "people's" championship, they fear something could go wrong and Cooney could go away for another five years, away with \$5 million this time and \$20 million next time against Mike Tyson.

Every day the supporters pack the gym at the Trump Plaza Hotel to see the gentle giant spar with not so gentle big giants. Afterwards the supporters ask him questions, then he says, "I love you," and blows kisses. One cannot blame them for thinking it could be a dream. For Cooney, the most exciting white heavyweight since Muhammad Ali disappeared for 27 months after his defeat by Larry Holmes in 1962.

Cooney came back to win two bouts in quick time - against Phil Brown, in Alaska, and George Chappin in Phoenix. After 18 months he returned again to knock out Eddie Gregg in one round and was not heard of again for another year. In those five years he had only seven rounds of competitive boxing.

Cooney blames his inactivity on injuries, including a torn shoulder muscle next to his left rotator cuff and badly smashed knuckles on the left hand. Family problems led to his retirement. "I had to concentrate on fighting or the family, and I chose the family," he says.

People who have tried to look into his psyche say that the knock-kneed knock-out artist from a middle class suburb of New York (24 knockouts, including Norton in one round, Lyle in one round, Young in four, in 29 contests) was really too nice for this hard game. They talk back to the referee, and in these five years he has only seven rounds of competitive boxing.

It does not matter to Cooney that he is challenging Spinks for a title recognized by only 18 American states. Cooney regards Spinks as a true world champion. "The direct linear champion from John L. Sullivan," and it does not matter that Spinks is a striper, a 1987 International Boxing Federation title for not defending against the No. 1 contender, Tony Tucker. "Titles are won in the ring," Cooney says.

Despite being ignored by the organizers of the world heavyweight title unification series, Cooney is the most important figure in the heavyweight picture. If Cooney beats Spinks he, not Tyson, would be the draw in the biggest show in the history of boxing. He says people want to see him not because he is big, 232lb, and has the hardest left hook in the world.

"I don't pay any attention to racial talk," he said. "I see no colour except the red of the gloves and the red of blood," he said. "This is America. It is not black or white that matters, but whether you throw a left or a right. It is the kind of fighting talk the supporters like to hear."

RUGBY UNION: JONES'S BELIEFS ONLY REASON FOR ALL BLACKS TO CHANGE

Still no place for Dalton as New Zealand name team

From David Hands, Rugby Correspondent, Brisbane

New Zealand, the first of the World Cup semi-finalists to announce their team for the weekend, moved out of their own country for the first time in this tournament yesterday and into Brisbane to prepare for Sunday's match against Wales at Ballymore.

It is a move which Andy Dalton, the nominated captain of the All Blacks squad but who, because of a hamstring injury, has yet to play a match, sees as a positive advantage. "It has given the guys something different, instead of staying around the same place for seven or eight days. I'm sure that training in a new environment will help to lift the players."

Dalton, aged 35, looks likely to create the melancholy record of being the only World Cup captain not to play in the tournament. He picked up the injury in training, and though he is now fit, Sean Fitzpatrick's form has been good enough to hold down the place at hooker against Wales in what is an all-Auckland front row.

The only change from the side that beat Scotland 30-3 last Saturday is the return at flank forward of Mark Brooke-Cowden whose first international it will be for a year. He takes over from his Auckland colleague, Michael Jones, whose religious beliefs do not permit him to play rugby on a Sunday.

This is an exceptionally

refreshing attitude from a young man with all to play for in terms of his burgeoning international rugby career. It may continue to create problems, however, because there is a move in New Zealand to play more representative games on Sundays, so as to leave the Saturday club programme less disrupted by televised internationals.

Brooke-Cowden, aged 23, played two internationals last year, against France and Australia, while the New Zealand Cavaliers, who toured South Africa without permission, were under suspension. He then gave way to Jock Hobbs, who captained New Zealand in France later in the year but who has been forced out of the game by injury.

He will be the 23rd player of New Zealand's 26-strong squad to appear in the World Cup, a tournament which Brian Lochore, their coach, despite some early misgivings, believes has worked well. David Kirk, the scrum half who has taken over the playing captaincy from Dalton, puts it thus: "As a player it means the opportunity to be part of a team which is the best in the world. I guess you can say that, because South Africa are not here and I don't know of any arrangement for the winners of this tournament to play them."

Dalton sees it as an opportunity to sell the game, not only in New Zealand,



Andy Dalton: likely to remain non-playing All Black captain

where several clubs have experienced a growth in playing membership this season, but overseas. Indeed, wherever one goes in Australia or New Zealand, the promotion and marketing of the game is the one major objective always at the shoulder of the leading administrators.

Wales returned today from their two days off on the Gold Coast - a schedule of their movements yesterday in-

cluded the somewhat technical information "lazing by the pool" - having been joined by John Rawlins, the replacement prop from Newport.

Richard Webster, the Swansea flanker, remains on standby in case Gareth Roberts is unavailable because of his broken nose.

New Zealand's 26-strong squad to appear in the World Cup, a tournament which Brian Lochore, their coach, despite some early misgivings, believes has worked well.

Tuynman on tenterhooks

From David Hands, Brisbane

The position of Steve Tuynman, the Australian No. 8, is in some doubt for Saturday's World Cup semi-final against France in Sydney. Tuynman was unable to train fully yesterday because of a heavily bruised left thigh and when the team is announced it may well include Troy Coker, of Queensland, with Simon Poidevin and Jeff Miller as the flankers.

At the moment both Australian and French camps are

playing cat and mouse with each other, going into semi-private huddles: both countries have injury problems, in French ones being Pierre Berbizier, the scrum half, and Serge Blanco, the full back, both crucial figures.

Jacques Fouroux, the French coach, had a long discussion with Berbizier during training yesterday when the scrum half jogged on his own and practiced throw-ins. Guy Penne, the

French doctor, said Berbizier was recovering from the bad gash in his left thigh, from last Sunday's quarter-final against Fiji, but was almost certain to fit.

"He is 98 per cent fit today. Tomorrow it will be 99 and the day after tomorrow 100 per cent, I hope," Penne said. The doctor said the main problem concerned the five stitches in the wound. If Berbizier started full training too early the wound could split open again, he said.

At least it looks as if Nick Farr-Jones will be fit to play scrum half for Australia. His shoulder injury has cleared up and he was passing easily enough yesterday: it was following up Farr-Jones kick ahead early in the game against Ireland last Sunday that Tuynman injured his left leg. His right had already been subject to a severe assault during a qualifying game when Gary Hein, the American wing, took him out with a smashing body tackle.

Gregg Craig, Australia's physiotherapist, said: "Tuynman's got less than a fifty per cent chance of being fit. He should be all right to run on Saturday, but he won't have been able to train with the others."

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SPORTS LETTERS

Towards full-sided enhancement

From Mr John S Hunter

Sir, Carole Robotham, the senior inspector of physical education within the Inner London Education Authority, asserts (June 6) that "many women never wanted to do sport again because of bad experiences". The cause-and-effect relationship is not as simple as it seems. It is not the impression that "team games" were to blame.

A reason can be put forward which is almost seemingly trite in its simplicity. Generations of schoolgirls have been fed on hockey as the staple diet of their physical education.

Now hockey is a game played with a small ball and requiring a secondary control factor, as there is an implement required between the player and the ball. At the time of my experience, 11-year-old girls are beginning to master the game, their male peers have only to deal with a large ball in football or rugby without any interference from intermediary

equipment. Hockey also requires an excellent playing surface: football, for example, does not. Need I say more?

I am pleased to note that ILEA "now think it is more valuable" to have small-sided games in the curriculum. We, and like institutions, have been promoting such for at least 13 years of my experience in education and it is nice to know that the message has eventually permeated ILEA.

One must read this paragraph in conjunction with Carol Robotham's televised (earlier this year) stance on this issue. She is a known proponent of the small-sided game as an end in itself - one does not need to be an expert on skills learning to progress, in stages obviously, from small-sided games through to full-sided matches on the skills-learning aspect - central to the objectives of physical education - be given a proper vehicle for enhancement.

Also - and the beauty of this process, for me, lies here - by developing games up to the manner in which they are played in sport outside school, one not only maximizes the skill-learning potential of the PE programme but serves the sport itself in each case.

Hence PE and sport will not be seen to be almost mutually exclusive - if they are, then my staff and I are preparing 320-odd students of PE and sport in a way which will throw them into conflict with such as Carole Robotham at some stage! However, the support of many schools and governing bodies of sport strongly suggest that those who think like us will win the conflict and "the debate" when the final count is taken. Yours faithfully, JOHN S HUNTER, Head of Physical Education, West London Institute of Higher Education, Borough Road, Isleworth, Middlesex.

A blast from the wartime past Ladies at Lord's

From Mr Alan Cooke

Sir, The excellent articles you printed about Lord's have reminded me about the memorable incident which I witnessed at the Army versus RAF cricket match on July 29, 1944.

A flying bomb's engine cut out and it crashed about 200 yards from the Nursery End all the players threw themselves on the ground. There is a picture of this incident in Sir Pelham Warner's book on Lord's.

The spectators rather ineffectually tried to take shelter by covering themselves with the rows of seats! One memory etched on my mind ever since was the edge of the blast, marked by a line of dust, going across the ground towards the pavilion.

Sir Pelham in his book states that the first ball bowled after the game recommenced was hooked by J. D. Robertson for six amid tremendous cheers. I wonder whether any other of your present readers were there on that occasion?

Yours faithfully, ALAN COOKE, 3 Beech Close, Winchester, Hampshire, June 2

From Dr Stanley Wells

Sir, Sir Donald Bradman tells us of his former belief that Lord's cricket ground was so named because of connections with the aristocracy. An old lady sitting behind me at a match there once credited it with even more elevated connections. "What a lovely ground!" said her companion. "Yes," the lady replied, "but then, it should be, it is the Lord's ground, you know."

Yours faithfully, STANLEY WELLS, Midsummer Cottage, Church Lane, Oxford, June 2

Odd man out

From Mr Duncan Stewart

Sir, Having examined the first-choice list for the England XI, it will be seen that only one player (Neil Foster) from the England XI assembled at Old Trafford for the first Test features in either the batting or bowling lists. Is this a record?

Between the two is a sad reflection on the county game that "Test match" stars only perform for Queen and country. Certainly a few years ago all of the England team featured in the averages, mostly near the top. What a loss! Hutton, Peter May, Alec Bedser, Jim Laker etc ever play for England when they were nowhere in the averages?

Perhaps the selectors are choosing the wrong players. It would be interesting if anyone has any ideas as to why England players do not feature in what is, after all, the vital statistics. I am sure that one, Geoffrey Boycott, would be well up in the batting if he were still playing.

Yours faithfully, DUNCAN STEWART, Worthing, West Sussex.

Second opinion not invited

From Mr Alec Gresty

Sir, Among the snippets of past action which introduced the television transmission of the Test match today was one of Bill Athey walking back to the pavilion at Edgbaston wearing an expression of dismayed incredulity, having been, apparently mistakenly, given out caught behind down the leg side. I seem to remember Graham Gooch being given out in similarly dubious circumstances last season.

When the batsman swivels round, one can understand that the umpire has difficulty in seeing what has happened. But there is another umpire at square leg who is often in the best possible position to judge what has happened. Why is it that he is the exception rather than the rule? Is it that some umpires prefer to risk injustice to a batsman rather than cast doubt on their own omniscience by inviting a second opinion?

Yours faithfully, ALEC GRETTY, 19 Salmon Leap, Chester.

Surrendering overall control

From Mr Alan Meyer

Sir, With great respect to your bicentennial writers, what is not at issue is TCCB's overall and ultimate responsibility for major matches at Lord's, or elsewhere. That has been TCCB's responsibility since 1968, when MCC created the board, and does not need to be affirmed. What is at issue is whether the MCC Committee, under pressure from TCCB, may now have conceded to TCCB "overall and ultimate authority and control" over possibly everything at such major matches at Lord's with out either consulting or notifying the MCC members.

Yours faithfully, ALAN MEYER, 10 Carteret Street, SW1.

Memorable for its forgettability

From Mr W B Hesmoundhalgh

Sir, I was surprised that Jimmy Hill should believe that 1987 might be regarded as a vintage year for association football, given that the Final was a good match, though curiously lacking in excitement and spirit, but as for the rest of the season ... oh, dear!

How many matches took place without a series of blatant cynical, "professional fouls"? How many hundreds of times did footballers lie writing on the ground for minutes on end as a result of knocks that most rugby players would not even notice?

Where were the Bests, the Finns, the Jameses, the Busbys of today? In how many matches were we spared the furious, contorted faces of managers and training staffs complaining about this or that, rather than the mode of the worst type of trades union shop steward?

How many matches were free of mindless chanting and thuggish violence? No, no, there was nothing memorable about it; it was just another easily forgettable football season, neither better nor worse than any of those that have gone before it during the past 20 years.

Yours faithfully, W B HESMOUNDHALGH, Eldon House, SW3, June 1.

Law Report June 11 1987 Privy Council

Two-stage test for duty of care is not apt in every negligence case

Yuen Kun Yeu and Others v Attorney General of Hong Kong

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Templeman, Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Slynn of Hadfield and Lord Jauncey of Tullynbeg (Judgment June 10)

The two-stage test for determining the existence of a duty of care in negligence set out in *Ans v Merton London Borough Council* (1978) AC 758 was not to be regarded in all circumstances as a suitable guide to the existence of a duty of care.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council held that the Hong Kong Commissioner of Deposit-taking Companies did not owe to members of the public who might be minded to deposit their money with deposit-taking companies in Hong Kong a duty, in the discharge of his supervisory powers under the Deposit-taking Companies Ordinance, to exercise reasonable care to see that such members of the public did not suffer loss through the affairs of deposit-taking companies being carried on by their managers in a fraudulent or imprudent manner.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by the plaintiffs, Yuen Kun Yeu, Lau Ka Kei, Ting Ah Lam and Lien Jen Diani from the Court of Appeal of Hong Kong on March 7, 1986 (1986) HKLR 783 who dismissed their appeal from Mr Justice Jones on July 9, 1985, in the High Court of Hong Kong, whereby on the

application of the Attorney General of Hong Kong, representing the Commissioner of Deposit-taking Companies, it was ordered that the plaintiffs' statement of claim be struck out under Order 18, rule 19 of the Hong Kong Rules of the Supreme Court as disclosing no reasonable cause of action.

[In 1983 section 41 of the Deposit-taking Companies Ordinance was added which provided that no liability shall be incurred by the Commissioner of Deposit-taking Companies as a result of anything done or omitted to be done by him *bona fide* in the exercise of any functions under the Ordinance.]

Mr Michael Beloff, QC, Mr Nicholas Prie (of the Hong Kong Bar) and Mr Paul Simecombe for the plaintiffs; Mr Michael Thomas, QC, Attorney General of Hong Kong, and Mr Nigel Jacobs for the Attorney General of Hong Kong.

LORD KEITH said that the plaintiffs were residents in Hong Kong who in 1982 made substantial deposits with a registered deposit-taking company which went into liquidation in February 1983, and as a result they had lost all the money which they had deposited with it.

The plaintiffs' claim was for damages on the ground of negligence in the discharge of the Commissioner's functions under the Deposit-taking Companies Ordinance.

In the plaintiffs' amended

statement of claim, the averments in which for present purposes are material, were that the plaintiffs said that they made their deposits "in reliance upon the fact that the company had been registered by the Commissioner under the Ordinance and that (i) the company was therefore a fit and proper body to be registered; (ii) the company was therefore subject to the prudential supervision of the Commissioner; (iii) the company would continue to be subject of such prudential supervision, and did so continue."

The allegations of fault against the Commissioner were that he knew or ought to have known, had he taken reasonable care, that the affairs of the company were being conducted fraudulently, speculatively and to the detriment of its depositors; that he failed to exercise his powers under the Ordinance so as to secure that the company complied with the obligations and restrictions there imposed upon it (a considerable number of which were alleged to have been breached); and that he should never have registered the company as a deposit-taking company or have revoked its registration before the plaintiffs made their deposits with it, so as to save them from losing their money when the company went into liquidation.

Important issues of principle were raised, having far-reaching implications as to the potential liability in negligence of a wide variety of regulatory agencies carried on under the aegis of central or local government and also to some extent by non-governmental bodies. Such agencies were in modern times becoming an increasingly familiar feature of the financial, commercial, industrial and social scene.

The argument for the plaintiffs started from the familiar passage in the speech of Lord Wilberforce in *Ans v Merton London Borough Council* (at pp751-752), that passage had been treated with some reservation in subsequent cases in the House of Lords, in particular in *Donoghue v Stevenson* (1932) AC 562, 580.

Hedley Byrne & Co Ltd v Heller & Partners Ltd (1964) AC 465 established the principle that a duty of care arose where a party was asked for and gave gratuitous advice upon a matter within his particular skill or knowledge and knew or ought to have known that the person asking for the advice would rely

upon it and act accordingly. In such a case the directness and closeness of the relationship between the parties were very apparent.

Dorset Yacht Co Ltd v Home Office (1970) AC 1004 was an example of the kind of situation where a special relationship between a defendant and a third party gave rise to a duty on the part of the defendant to take reasonable care to control the third party so as to prevent him causing damage to the plaintiff.

The second stage of Lord Wilberforce's test was one which would rarely have to be applied. One of those rare cases was *Rovell v W Bradley* (1969) 1 AC 191. Such a policy consideration was invoked in *Hill v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire* (1987) 2 WLR 1126.

In view of the direction in which the law had since been developing, their Lordships considered that for the future it should be recognized that the

LETTERS
d enhancement

RACING: OMENS APPEAR GOOD FOR LEMOS AND BRITAIN TO COMBINE FOR A REPEAT PERFORMANCE IN THE KINGSLERE STAKES

Votsala looks cut above average

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)
Following that runaway win at Leicester last month Votsala looks poised to capture the Kingsclere Stakes at Newbury today. When racehorses win by as far as six lengths they tend to be either a cut above average or the opposition is moderate. In Votsala's case I think she falls into the first category. As she started favourite to make that winning debut she had clearly shown ability at home.

beaten neither Mohabbah nor Bajan Bess have looked out of the ordinary.
In the circumstances Ajuga could turn out to be my selection's main danger. She caught the eye at Sandown first time out when she finished sixth behind Princess Athena, whose sights are now set on the Queen Mary Stakes at Royal Ascot.

where only two have stood their ground for the Watt Memorial EBF Stakes.
If Russian Rover (3.45) wins that by beating his solitary rival, Forcing Bid, he will draw further attention to the chance that Quexioss (4.00) has of remaining unbeaten on the Berkshire track quarter of an hour later, for there was only a neck between them when they met at Warwick in April.

when he won at York last time Cannon Law beat Oakworth, who has won well at Redcar since. That form has a pretty solid look about it.
A new apprentice series is to be launched at Pontefract which will provide the winning jockey with a two-week working holiday in Florida next winter with John Veitch, a leading US trainer.



Geordie's Delight, the colt who brought Lester Piggott his first training success, and is seen here being guided to second place in the John Porter Stakes at Newbury by Tony Ives in April, will be trying to go one better in today's Coppers & Lybrand Summer Handicap.

Today's nap though is entrusted to Quiet Riot to win the Coopers and Lybrand Summer Stakes now that there is some cut in the ground again. Guy Hart, the five-year-old's owner, told me that it was too firm underfoot when Quiet Riot was beaten three lengths by Billet in the London Gold Cup on this same course midway through last month.

The softer ground may also enable Terminator to return to form in the Cork Gully Apprentice handicap. I noted him running well in the Spring Cup here in April when there was also plenty of give in the ground. Afterwards he looked ill at ease on the firm fast going at Kempton when he was back down to second favourite for the Jubilee Stakes. That sixth place in the Wiscom Cup at Sandown recently was rather more encouraging.

Twelve months ago Mick Easterby won the GRP Massey Two-year-old trophy at Beverley with Wiganthorpe. This time it looks the turn of brother Peter to come up triumph with Cannon Law, for

The series, sponsored by the property investors, White Lane Group, will comprise four races beginning on June 23, with the final on October 13. It is open to apprentices who have ridden no more than ten winners at the start of the season.
Terry Armitage, managing director of the sponsoring company, said: "It is all too easy to support a world champion in order to guarantee oneself maximum publicity, but assisting a rising star to achieve that honour is, in the company's view, much more worthwhile."

NEWBURY

Selections

- By Mandarin: 2.00 Terminator, 2.30 Darweesh, 3.00 QUIET RIOT (nap), 3.30 Votsala, 4.00 Quexioss, 4.30 Honey Dancer, 5.00 Kastamoun.
- By Michael Seely: 4.00 Quexioss, 5.00 Cock Sparrow.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.00 QUEXIOSS.

Going: good to soft

2.00 CORK GULLY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (€3,204: 1m) (10 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like MALAMAN, STAMFORD VALE, and BATH.

2.30 EBF KENNETH MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O-C & G: €3,831: 6f) (9 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like AL KHALID, BENTWICHING, and BLAZE ENGLISH.

3.00 COOPERS & LYBRAND SUMMER HANDICAP (€3,212: 1m 4f) (9 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like GEORGE'S DELIGHT, PRIMARY, and SHARP NOBLE.

FORM

GEORGE'S DELIGHT ran last time as a 10-1 shot in the 1m 4f at Sandown (€1,200) on May 25, 1987. He was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0-0-2 TIMEFORM 74 (CO,FF,F,A,B) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 West (4) 88

Table for 3.30 KINGSLERE STAKES (2-Y-O Fills: €2,038: 6f) (6 runners). Includes horses like INDEMNITY, BAJAN BESS, and VOTSALA.

FORM

INDEMNITY is well bred and (8-8) best. She was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

4.00 BASINGSTOKE STAKES (3-Y-O: €4,206: 1m 4f) (3)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like SUNSET BOULEVARD and QUEXIOSS.

FORM

SUNSET BOULEVARD (8-11) was best in the 1m 4f at Sandown (€1,200) on May 25, 1987. He was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

4.30 CHILREY MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: €3,230: 1m 5f 60yd) (11 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like BADIAN, EXORBITANT, and FALWORTH.

FORM

BADIAN (8-11) was best in the 1m 5f 60yd at Sandown (€1,200) on May 25, 1987. He was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

5.00 KENNETH ROBERTSON HANDICAP (3-Y-O: €3,732: 1m 3f) (11 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like KRIPAN, BANAMAR, and SPARK.

FORM

KRIPAN (8-11) was best in the 1m 3f at Sandown (€1,200) on May 25, 1987. He was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

3.15 GRP MASSEY TWO-YR-OLD TROPHY (€4,682: 5f) (5 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like CHEVER LOUPOLE, CANON LAW, and RUSSIAN ROVER.

FORM

CHEVER LOUPOLE (8-11) was best in the 5f at Sandown (€1,200) on May 25, 1987. He was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

3.45 WATT MEMORIAL EBF STAKES (€4,638: 1m 4f) (2 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like FORCING BID and RUSSIAN ROVER.

FORM

FORCING BID (8-11) was best in the 1m 4f at Sandown (€1,200) on May 25, 1987. He was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

4.15 BRANTINGHAM HANDICAP (€1,578: 2m) (8 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like JACKAW, POONA EXPRESS, and PERFECT DOUBLE.

FORM

JACKAW (8-11) was best in the 2m at Sandown (€1,200) on May 25, 1987. He was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

4.45 GRANDSTAND HANDICAP (€1,625: 1m 2f) (13 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like RAPID LAD, JOHNSIE, and BELLEVER.

FORM

RAPID LAD (8-11) was best in the 1m 2f at Sandown (€1,200) on May 25, 1987. He was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

A bruise causes uncertainty about Sonic Lady for Ascot

Sonic Lady, last season's champion European miler has been bruised a foot and is not yet certain to start her campaign in the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot next week.
"I worked the filly this morning," said Michael Stoute yesterday. "And she will be galloped again on Saturday before we reach a decision."

In 1986 Sonic Lady's breathing took speed and courage carried her to victory in six races, including the Irish 1000 Guineas, the Sussex Stakes and the Prix du Moulin. The only time she was defeated in winning was in the 1000 Guineas when she was third to Midway Lady in the 1,000 Guineas and when unplaced behind Lad Tycoon in the Breeders Cup mile on turf at Santa Anita.

A weekend decision will also be taken about the next objective for the filly. She has won five lengths winner of last Saturday's Oaks at Epsom. Last season's champion trainer plans a nine-horse raid at the royal meeting. Milligram, second to Miescage in the 1,000 Guineas and runner-up to Sangster respectively, "I don't think my horses have been quite right," said the trainer. "The weather has been so cold and unpleasant but then I seem to be coming back to form."

The trainer's seven runners for Ascot will include Gallic League, who looks likely to start favourite for the Norfolk Stakes for two-year-olds and Rikki Tavi, who will be attempting to repeat last year's win for the stable in the Ascot Stakes. Harry Lewis, fourth in the Derby, and Bourbon Girl, runner-up in the Oaks, are to be sent to the Curragh for the Budweiser Irish Derby and the Gulltown Stud Oaks.

Murphy loses licence

Declan Murphy, the jump jockey, yesterday had his licence taken away for nearly four months by the Jockey Club's Disciplinary Committee. At an inquiry at Portman Square, London, the committee decided that Murphy had misled the Setfield stewards after finishing fourth on the Barney Curlew-trained Solvent at the Curlew race in April.

The local stewards fined Murphy £150 for failing to do his best on Solvent, who finished fast after losing his place at the second last. Murphy's explanation at the time was that he had been unable to keep his mount covered up in the early stages, because he was running very freely, and he could not use his left arm effectively, having just returned after a collar bone injury.

The committee heard evidence from Murphy, the stewards, Jockey Club Medical Consultant, and also viewed a video of the race, the Roadshow Novices Hurdle. They found that Murphy had been seen to take a drink from a bottle which he had brought with him to the race, and that he had used his left arm to steady himself after returning from a collar bone injury.

Course specialists

Table with columns for Trainers, Runners, Per Cent, Jockeys, Wins, Rides, Per Cent. Lists names like G Duffield, M Hill, W Menzies, etc.

Sirett dies at 81

Jack Sirett, the former jockey and trainer, died at his Epsom home on Tuesday night. He was 81. Sirett served his apprenticeship with Stanley Wooton. As a strong, highly successful lightweight jockey, between 1924 and 1953 he rode more than 1,000 winners, including two Manchester Cup, four Newbury Cups, two Victoria Cups, three Wokingham Stakes, City and Suburban Handicap, Casewitch and two Ascot Gold Cups.

Tuesday's late results

Table with columns for Race, Winner, Odds, Trainers, Jockeys, Wins, Rides, Per Cent. Lists results for various races like 2.00 (1) PATS ORACLE, 2.30 (1) PATS ORACLE, etc.

BEVERLEY

Selections

- By Mandarin: 2.15 Pinetada, 2.45 Pats Oracle, 3.15 Cannon Law, 3.45 Russian Rover, 4.15 Path's Sister, 4.45 Rapid Lad.
- By Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.15 Ross Loubet, 2.45 Sugar Token, 3.15 Huang Tuah, 3.45 Russian Rover, 4.15 —, 4.45 —.

Michael Seely's selection: PATHS'S SISTER (nap).

Going: good

2.15 LONDESBOROUGH HANDICAP (€1,740: 7f 100yd) (17 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like PASTRY, PALMIST, and JAMES' PALM.

2.45 ETON SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O: €360: 5f) (12 runners)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and trainer. Includes horses like PATS ORACLE, GILBERT SURGE, and BRIGHT.

FORM

PATS ORACLE (8-11) was best in the 5f at Sandown (€1,200) on May 25, 1987. He was ridden by J. Carroll and trained by G. Duffield.

